

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 79 (Senator Kelley, *et al.*)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Baltimore County - Board of Education - Membership

This bill requires Senate approval of the Governor's appointments to the Baltimore County Board of Education. It also requires that, to the extent practicable, the Governor's appointments reflect the demographic composition of the county's student population.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Senate confirmation of the Governor's appointees could be carried out with existing resources.

Local Effect: None. The bill would not alter the composition of the Baltimore County board, nor would it change its compensation.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Baltimore County Board of Education consists of 12 members appointed by the Governor:

- four members appointed from the county at large;
- seven members appointed from each of the county's seven councilmanic districts; and
- one student member from the county at large.

Senate approval is not required for the Governor's appointees, nor are the appointees required to reflect the demographic composition of the county's student population.

Background: Baltimore County is one of seven counties in the State with appointed school boards. The other six are: Anne Arundel, Baltimore City, Caroline, Harford, Queen Anne's, and Wicomico. All seven of the boards are appointed by the Governor, except for the Baltimore City board, which is jointly appointed by the Governor and the mayor. Queen Anne's County is transitioning to an elected board, beginning with the 2008 general election.

Exhibit 1 shows the demographic composition of the Baltimore County student population, and the composition of the Board of Education, including the student member.

Exhibit 1
Baltimore County Schools
Student and Board Member Demographics
2006-2007

	Student Population <u>(107,403)</u>	Board of Education <u>(12 appointed members)</u>
White (not Hispanic)	52%	83% (10)
African American	39	17 (2)
Asian/Pacific Islander	5	-
Hispanic	3	-
Native American	1	-
Male	49%	58% (7)
Female	51	42 (5)

Source: Baltimore County Public Schools; *2006 Maryland Report Card*

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Association of Boards of Education, Baltimore County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 8, 2007
ncs/rhh

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