

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2008 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

Senate Bill 230  
Finance

(Senator Greenip, *et al.*)

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**Public School Collective Bargaining Sunshine Act**

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This bill requires a local board of education to make collective bargaining agreements between the board and local employee organizations available on the web site of the local school system, at the school system's main administrative building, and at the largest local library in the county within 10 working days after approval of the agreements. Copies of the agreements must also be sent to the State Board of Education, which must create a repository to store the agreements. The State board must make copies of the agreements available for public inspection and, at the discretion of the State board, post copies of the agreements on the Maryland State Department of Education web site or provide hyperlinks to local school systems' web sites. For contracts between the local boards of education and the employee organizations representing certificated school personnel, local boards of education and the State Board of Education must meet these requirements within 30 days after the enactment of the bill.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** MSDE and the State Board of Education could create a repository for collective bargaining agreements and make the agreements available for public inspection with existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** Local school systems could make collective bargaining agreements more accessible without materially affecting school and county budgets.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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## Analysis

**Current Law:** Collective bargaining agreements are considered public records and therefore must be made available upon request. There are no additional laws or regulations pertaining specifically to collective bargaining agreements between local boards of education and the organizations representing their employees.

**Background:** A quick search of the web sites for Maryland's six largest school systems revealed that at least three of the systems had posted collective bargaining agreements on their sites. The MSDE web site includes a page that links to each of the 24 local school systems: [http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/schoolsystems/System\\_Links\\_County.htm](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/schoolsystems/System_Links_County.htm).

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## Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland State Department of Education, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 20, 2008  
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