

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 576

(Chair, Ways and Means Committee)

(By Request – Departmental – Education)

Ways and Means

Finance

Children, Youth, and Families - Local Coordinating Councils - Membership

This departmental bill repeals the requirement that each local coordinating council include at least one representative of the local office of the division of rehabilitative services. The bill also adds a nonvoting representative of the local office of the division of rehabilitative services to each local coordinating council to represent individuals age 16 and older.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The change would not directly affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Maryland State Department of Education has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment. (The attached assessment does not reflect amendments to the bill.)

Analysis

Current Law: Each local coordinating council must include at least one representative of the following agencies and interests: • the Department of Juvenile Services; • the Developmental Disabilities Administration; • the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration; • the Mental Hygiene Administration; • the local board of education; • the local health department; • the local department of social services; • the local office

of the division of rehabilitative services; • the local management board; • and a parent advocate.

The local coordinating council is charged with accepting placement referrals from the units represented on the council, reviewing recommendations for residential placement of children referred to the council, developing an interagency plan of care for residential placement or community-based services for a child, submitting recommended plans of care to the State Coordinating Council for Children, and assisting in the implementation and monitoring of residential placements.

Background: MSDE's Division of Rehabilitative Services promotes employment and independent living for individuals with disabilities. The division primarily serves adults, though students in their last two years of high school may be eligible for services.

The scope of services provided and the age of the individuals served by the Division of Rehabilitation Services does not coincide with the majority of cases considered by a local coordinating council. MSDE advises that representatives of the division will continue to be available to the councils on an as-needed basis.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 29, 2008
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