

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 107

(Senators Klausmeier and Stone)

Finance

Education - Baltimore County - Public School Employee Units

This bill increases from three to four the maximum number of bargaining units representing certificated employees of the Baltimore County Public Schools, provided that the additional unit represents school-based administrators and school-based administrators on assignment.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2008.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Baltimore County Public Schools could handle the increased workload from an additional bargaining unit with existing resources. To the extent that the new bargaining unit for school-based administrators negotiates higher compensation than is provided under the current contract, this bill could result in increased school system expenditures for the compensation of school-based administrators beginning in FY 2009.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The maximum number of bargaining units allowed to represent certificated public school employees in any county is two. In Baltimore County, however, the maximum number is three, provided that one unit represents elementary and

special school nurses and one represents both certificated and noncertificated supervisory employees.

Background: Baltimore County public school principals and assistant principals are represented by the Council of Administrative and Supervisory Employees (CASE), which also represents central office administrators, curriculum specialists, and other supervisory personnel. The principals and assistant principals would like to form their own bargaining unit to negotiate separately from other members of CASE. However, they are prevented from doing so by the limitation on the number of bargaining units contained in State statute.

Local Fiscal Effect: The bill would create a sixth bargaining unit within the Baltimore County Public Schools, adding to the three it has for certificated personnel and two for noncertificated personnel. School board personnel responsible for conducting negotiations with bargaining units would therefore experience an increase in their workload, but the school system does not anticipate adding additional staff to meet that need.

Given that the purpose of creating a fourth unit for school-based administrators is to bargain for higher compensation than is currently available under the CASE contract, it is reasonable to expect that negotiations with the new unit could increase school district expenditures for the compensation of school-based administrators. The extent of the increase would be determined by the outcome of the negotiations.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore County Public Schools, Department of Legislative Services

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