

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 371 (Senator Gladden)
 Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

State Buildings and Public Educational Institutions - Display of President's Photograph

This bill requires an official photograph of the President of the United States to be prominently displayed in each public school building, State building, and certain higher education administration buildings.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: State expenditures increase by \$20,000 in FY 2010 to display the required photograph. Additional expenses will be incurred upon any change in the President of the United States. The next presidential election will occur in November 2012, therefore expenses may be incurred as soon as FY 2013. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	13,500	0	0	0	0
SF Expenditure	6,500	0	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$20,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

Local Effect: Local school system expenditures increase by \$43,800 and local community college expenditures increase by at least \$450 in FY 2010 to display the required photograph. Additional expenses will be incurred upon any change in the President of the United States. **This bill imposes a mandate on a unit of local government.**

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The Secretary of General Services and the Secretary of Transportation must ensure that an official photograph of the President of the United States is displayed in a prominent location in all State buildings under their control. The governing board of the University System of Maryland, Morgan State University, and St. Mary's College of Maryland, and the board of community college trustees in a county must ensure that an official presidential photograph is displayed in all administration buildings under their control. Each local board of education must prominently display an official presidential photograph in each public school building in the county.

Current Law: Each local board of education must require that an American flag be displayed on the grounds of a public school building while the school is in session. The local board must provide all necessary flags, staffs, and appliances for the proper custody, care, and display of the flag.

Background: Most State buildings currently display an official photograph of the Governor and the Secretary or administrative head of the executive department.

The U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) prints the official photographs of President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden. These photographs are hung in more than 7,000 federal installations managed by the General Services Administration. Official photographs of the President may be purchased from GPO at a cost of \$9.00 for an 8x10 and, \$12.00 for an 11x14. A bulk rate discount of 25% is available. The current official photograph of President Barack Obama is the first portrait of a U.S. president taken with a digital camera.

State Expenditures: General fund expenditures for the Department of General Services (DGS) increase by an estimated \$13,470 in fiscal 2010 to display the required photograph (estimated to cost approximately \$30) in 449 State buildings under the control of DGS. This estimate does not include the cost of labor to hang the photographs.

Special fund expenditures for the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) increase by an estimated \$6,000 in fiscal 2010 to display the required photograph in approximately 200 occupied State buildings under the control of MDOT. This estimate does not include the cost of labor to hang the photographs and assumes that a photograph will not be displayed in the approximately 200 unoccupied MDOT buildings.

Higher education expenditures increase by at least \$450 in fiscal 2010 to display an official photograph of the U.S. President at the administration building at each institution. There are 15 public institutions of higher education in Maryland including the University System of Maryland (encompasses 11 degree-granting institutions and 2 research

institutes), Morgan State University, and St. Mary's College of Maryland. In addition, general fund expenditures will increase by \$30 to display the photograph at the Baltimore City Community College, a State-operated institution.

Local Expenditures: As the 1,459 public schools in the State generally do not prominently display an official photograph of the President of the United States at this time, local school system expenditures increase by a total of \$43,770 in fiscal 2010 to display the required photograph. This estimate does not include the cost of labor to hang the photographs. In addition, the State's 15 local community colleges will incur expenses of at least \$450 to display the photograph in administration buildings.

Additional Comments: These expenses will be incurred again when the President of the United States changes. The next presidential election is November 6, 2012. Therefore expenses could be incurred as soon as fiscal 2013.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Association of Boards of Education, Baltimore City Community College, Maryland State Department of Education, Department of General Services, Maryland Higher Education Commission, Morgan State University, Maryland Department of Transportation, University System of Maryland, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 9, 2009
ncs/hlb

Analysis by: Jennifer B. Chasse

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510