

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2009 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

House Bill 587

(Delegate Kaiser, *et al.*)

Ways and Means

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Education - Teacher Identification Number

This bill authorizes the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) to assign a unique identification number to each public school teacher. The identification number must be randomly generated and may not provide personally identifiable information. Use of the identification number must be limited to matching data from multiple data collections and years and meeting State and federal reporting requirements.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2009.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: MSDE can assign and add to its existing database a unique identification number to each public school teacher with existing resources.

Local Effect: Local school expenditures may increase to update data collection systems if MSDE requires data collection utilizing the teacher identification number. Revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: This is a new initiative.

Background: Assigning each teacher a unique identification number is the first step to matching teachers to students by classroom and subject. The data can then be used to study education policy questions such as identifying which forms of teacher training and

certification have the greatest impact on students' academic growth in the classroom. The *Data Quality Campaign* reports that 21 states have the ability to match teachers to students. MSDE advises that a unique teacher identification number will assist with meeting State and federal reporting requirements.

Stimulus Package

It is anticipated that the State will receive one-time education funding from the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, which is part of the federal economic stimulus package. Establishing a longitudinal data system to track students through the education system is a funding priority for this federal aid. Unique teacher identification numbers are one element of a longitudinal data system.

State Expenditures: MSDE advises that it can add unique teacher identification numbers to its existing database with existing resources. The database was created with the intention of incorporating this data element. However, authorization for this purpose must first be obtained.

Local Expenditures: One-time expenditures for local school systems may increase to update their data collection systems. MSDE has estimated similar upgrades at several thousand dollars.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

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