

Department of Legislative Services
2010 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 161 (Senators Simonaire and Reilly)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Ways and Means

Anne Arundel County Public Schools - Office Discipline Referrals - Policy

This bill requires the Anne Arundel County Board of Education to establish a committee to develop a policy concerning office discipline referrals in the county school system. The committee is required to develop and recommend a policy to the county board of education by January 1, 2011. The board of education is required to present a report to the Anne Arundel County Delegation on the approved policy before the end of the 2011 session of the General Assembly.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2010, and terminates June 30, 2011.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The Anne Arundel County Board of Education can establish the required committee and report to the delegation using existing resources. Revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Each local board of education must adopt regulations designed to create and maintain within the schools under its jurisdiction an atmosphere of order and discipline necessary for effective learning. There are no uniform policies on office discipline referrals.

Background: The Anne Arundel County Board of Education reports that it is in the process of transitioning to a new discipline referral form. The existing discipline referral form includes copies to be distributed to the student's permanent file, to the student's

guidance councilor, and to the teacher who made the referral. The new form also includes a sheet that will be returned to the teacher documenting the outcome of the discipline referral. However, the new form will not be used until the remaining 30,000 copies of the old form are used.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: SB 409 of 2009 passed the Senate, was referred to the House Rules and Executive Nominations, but no further action was taken. Its cross file, HB 897, received a hearing in the House Ways and Means Committee, but no further action was taken.

Cross File: HB 178 (Anne Arundel County Delegation) - Ways and Means.

Information Source(s): Anne Arundel County, Maryland State Department of Education, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 1, 2010
ncs/mwc Revised - Enrolled Bill - May 14, 2010

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