

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly

2010 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 626

(Senator Dyson)

Finance

Ways and Means

St. Mary's County - Noncertificated Public School Employees - Service Fee

This bill requires the St. Mary's County Board of Education and the employee organizations representing noncertificated board employees to negotiate reasonable service fees to be charged to nonmembers for representation in negotiations and grievance matters. Only employees hired on or after July 1, 2010, may be charged this fee.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2010.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Any additional administrative workload for the St. Mary's County Public School System can be managed with existing personnel and resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The St. Mary's County Board of Education and the employee organizations representing noncertificated public school employees are not authorized to charge a fee to nonmembers.

Nonmember service fees for noncertificated employees are required in Baltimore City and Allegany, Charles, Howard, and Montgomery counties; and authorized in Anne Arundel and Baltimore counties.

Background: Generally, noncertificated local board of education employees include building maintenance staff, school bus drivers, support staff, and other staff who do not require professional teaching certification. St. Mary's County reports that the employee organizations representing noncertificated board employees has already negotiated a fair share agreement with the St. Mary's County Board of Education which is contingent on legislation that would allow those fees. The agreement states that the employee organization cannot charge a service fee until 70% of the noncertificated board employees become members; however, the bill requires that a reasonable service or representation fee be negotiated regardless of the percentage of employees who become members.

Local Fiscal Effect: While the unions representing St. Mary's County public school employees may receive additional revenues from nonmember service fees, St. Mary's County finances are not affected. Any increase in the administrative workload for the St. Mary's County Public School System can be met with existing resources.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): St. Mary's County, Department of Legislative Services

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