

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2012 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 22 (Senator Simonaire)
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Anne Arundel County - School Board - Membership

This bill restructures the Anne Arundel County Board of Education from a 9-member appointed board (including 1 student member) to an 11-member hybrid board consisting of 7 elected members (1 from each of the 7 councilmanic districts on a nonpartisan basis); 3 appointed members (1 appointed by the Governor, the County Executive, and the County Council); and 1 student member.

The transition occurs after the primary and general elections of 2014 and after the commencement of terms of members elected following those elections.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Anne Arundel County expenditures increase by \$31,600 in FY 2015 and by \$34,500 annually beginning in FY 2016, to cover salaries and expenses for two additional school board members, plus additional one-time costs. The Anne Arundel County Board of Elections can meet election requirements using existing resources. **This bill imposes a mandate on a unit of local government.**

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: Commencing with the term that begins December 1, 2014, the Governor, the Anne Arundel County Executive, and the Anne Arundel County Council must appoint a member to the county board from a list of nominees submitted by the School

Board Nominating Commission of Anne Arundel County. The commission must submit at least two nominees to the appointing authorities for each vacancy for the county board, unless there are fewer than two applicants for a vacancy.

An appointed member is eligible for nomination and reappointment for a second consecutive term. Reappointment will no longer be subject to voter approval. Except for the student member, the terms of the appointed board members in office on November 30, 2014, terminate on that date.

Current Law: The Anne Arundel County Board of Education consists of nine members, of whom three members are appointed from the county at large, five members are appointed from each of the five legislative districts in the county, and one is a student member. Except for the student member, the Governor must appoint a member of the county board from a list of nominees submitted by the School Board Nominating Commission of Anne Arundel County.

The School Board Nominating Commission of Anne Arundel County was established in 2007 (Chapter 454). The commission must submit at least two nominees to the Governor for each vacancy for the county board, unless there are fewer than two applicants for a vacancy.

Following the initial appointment of a board member by the Governor, a member may continue to serve for the remainder of the member's first term subject to the approval or rejection of the registered voters of the county at the next general election. A board member may serve for a second consecutive term subject to the approval or rejection by the registered voters of the county at the next general election.

On receipt of the required notice from the county board of education to the State Board of Elections, the name of a county board member must be placed on the appropriate ballot and shown, without opposition. Voters must vote for or against retaining the member on the board. If the voters reject the retention of the member, or if the vote is tied, the position becomes vacant 10 days after certification of the election returns, and the member serves until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

The student board member must be a regularly enrolled senior-year student of good character and in good standing in an Anne Arundel County public high school, and be selected in the student's junior year by a method selected by the Chesapeake Regional Association of Student Councils of Anne Arundel County.

Background: The Anne Arundel County Board of Education is one of five appointed school boards in the State, including one (Caroline County) that is in the process of transitioning to a hybrid board of appointed and elected members. Harford County has

such a hybrid board. Eighteen local boards are elected by county voters. The selection method and number of school board members for each of the 24 local boards are shown in **Appendix 1**.

Local Fiscal Effect: The President of the Anne Arundel County Board of Education receives \$8,000 annually as compensation and, except for the student member, board members receive \$6,000 each annually. In addition, members of the Anne Arundel County Board of Education receive a monthly allowance toward reimbursement for local travel and other expenses related to attending meetings and transacting board business, per board policy. The allowance is approximately \$300 per month. Furthermore, it is board policy to reimburse board members for other expenses incurred in the performance of board duties, which is estimated at approximately \$600 per month for each member. This includes expenses related to annual attendance of a Maryland Association of Boards of Education conference and a National School Boards Association conference.

Accounting for the December 2014 start date for the institution of an 11-member board, county expenditures for board member salaries and expenses increase by approximately \$20,100 in fiscal 2015 and by approximately \$34,500 annually beginning in fiscal 2016 as shown in **Exhibit 1**. Additional one-time expenditures for board room renovations and furnishing, and purchase of two additional laptop computers, totaling approximately \$11,500, are assumed to be made in fiscal 2015. The Anne Arundel County Board of Elections can add extra names to election ballots using existing resources.

Exhibit 1
Potential Increase in Anne Arundel County Expenditures

	<u>FY 2015</u>	<u>FY 2016</u>
Salaries	\$7,000	\$12,000
Fringe Benefits	537	920
Expense Reimbursements	12,600	21,600
One-time Expenses	11,500	0
Total	\$31,637	\$34,520

Appendix 1

Local Boards of Education in Maryland

School System	Number of Members	Term	Means of Selection¹	
Allegany	7	4 years	E	5 from county at large 1 commissioner <i>ex officio</i> (nonvoting) 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Anne Arundel	9	5 years	A	3 from county at large 5 from legislative districts 1 student (one-year term)
Baltimore City	10	3 years	A	9 from city at large 1 student (one-year term)
Baltimore	12	5 years	A	4 from county at large 7 from council districts 1 student (one-year term)
Calvert	6	4 years	E	2 from county at large 3 from commissioner districts 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Caroline ²	7	4 years	A/E	3 elected from school board districts 2 appointed from county at large 2 students (nonvoting, one-year term)
Carroll	9	4 years	E	5 from county at large 3 commissioners <i>ex officio</i> (nonvoting) 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Cecil	6	4 years	E	5 from commissioner districts 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Charles	8	4 years	E	7 from county at large 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Dorchester	7	4 years	E	5 from council districts 2 students (nonvoting, one-year term)
Frederick	8	4 years	E	7 from county at large 1 student (nonvoting, one year term)
Garrett	7	4 years	E	2 from county at large 3 from commissioner districts 1 commissioner <i>ex officio</i> (nonvoting) 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)

School System	Number of Members	Term		Means of Selection¹
Harford	11	4 years	A/E	6 elected from council districts 3 appointed 1 superintendent <i>ex officio</i> (nonvoting) 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Howard	8	4 years	E	7 from county at large 1 student (one-year term)
Kent	6	4 years	E	5 from county at large 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Montgomery	8	4 years	E	2 from county at large 5 from school board districts 1 student (one-year term)
Prince George's	10	4 years	E	9 from school board districts 1 student (one-year term)
Queen Anne's	7	4 years	E	1 from county at large 4 from commissioner districts 2 students (nonvoting, one-year term)
St. Mary's	6	4 years	E	1 from county at large 4 from commissioner districts 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Somerset	5	4 years	E	All from commissioner districts
Talbot	8	4 years	E	7 from school board districts 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Washington	8	4 years	E	7 from county at large 1 student (nonvoting, one-year term)
Wicomico	7	5 years	A	All from county at large
Worcester	10	4 years	E	7 from commissioner districts 3 students (nonvoting, one-year term)

¹A = Appointed by Governor, except in Baltimore City where board is appointed jointly by the Governor and the Mayor. E = Elected. A/E = Combined appointed and elected board.

²Voters in Caroline County decided at the 2010 general election to change from an appointed board to a combination appointed and elected board beginning with the November 2012 general election. The terms of the five current appointed members will expire December 2, 2012.

Source: Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article, Sections 3-101 through 3-1405; local board of education websites

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

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