

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2015 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 71

(Senator Edwards, *et al.*)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Ways and Means

County Superintendents of Schools - Reappointment Exemption in Washington
County and Recruitment Recommendations

This bill exempts the Washington County Board of Education from specified requirements for appointing and reappointing the Washington County Superintendent of Schools.

The State Superintendent of Schools must submit recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly on ways to improve the recruitment and retention of county school superintendents in the State by November 1, 2015.

The bill takes effect by July 1, 2015.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The Maryland State Department of Education can handle the bill's reporting requirements with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None. The bill does not directly affect Washington County finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The bill exempts the Washington County Board of Education from provisions of law that require (1) notification by a county superintendent by February 1 if the county superintendent is a candidate for reappointment and (2) the county board of education to appoint and reappoint a county superintendent during specified months of the

year, in accordance with the taking of a final action at a public meeting held no later than March 1 in the instance of reappointment.

Current Law: Generally, the term of a county superintendent of schools is four years beginning on July 1. A county superintendent continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies. By February 1 of the year in which a term ends, the county superintendent must notify the county board whether the superintendent is a candidate for reappointment. In the year in which a term begins, the county board must appoint a county superintendent between February 1 and June 30. However, if the county board decides to reappoint the incumbent superintendent, the county board must take final action at a public meeting no later than March 1 of that year. If a county board is unable to appoint a county superintendent by July 1 of a year in which a term begins, an interim superintendent may be appointed. These provisions do not apply to Baltimore City and Prince George's County.

Background: The Washington County School Superintendent began employment with the county as superintendent on July 1, 2011. The contract was renewed July 1, 2013, and will expire June 30, 2017. The bill allows the Washington County Board of Education to renew the superintendent's contract at any time during the four-year contract.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 191 (Washington County Delegation) - Ways and Means.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 2, 2015
md/hlb Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 26, 2015

Analysis by: Michael Sanelli

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