

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2016 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

Senate Bill 317 (Senator Kelley, *et al.*)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Ways and Means

Coordinating Council for Juvenile Services Educational Programs - Membership

This bill alters the terms and membership of the Coordinating Council for Juvenile Services Educational Programs.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Any expense reimbursements for the additional council members can be handled with existing resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary/Current Law: Under current law, the coordinating council consists of two residents of the State who are appointed by the Governor for four-year terms, as well as the State Superintendent of Schools, the Secretary of Budget and Management, the Secretary of Juvenile Services, the Secretary of Higher Education, and a county superintendent of schools who is selected by the State Superintendent of Schools with the concurrence of the Secretary of Juvenile Services. The superintendent must be from a county in which a residential facility operated by the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) is located. The State Superintendent chairs the council and the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) provides technical and clerical assistance and support.

The bill repeals the requirements related to the selection of the county superintendent and establishes instead that the county superintendent is to be appointed by the Public School Superintendents' Association of Maryland.

The bill also adds the following members to the council: (1) the Executive Director of the Maryland Association of Community Colleges or the Executive Director's designee; (2) one member appointed by the Maryland Association of Boards of Education; and (3) one resident each of seven specified counties, who are to be appointed by the Governor in consultation with the county executive or mayor of the county. The at-large members (those not subject to the residency restriction of the specified counties) who are appointed by the Governor continue to serve four-year terms; otherwise, the members serve two-year terms.

The bill specifies that (1) at the end of a term, an appointed member continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies and (2) a member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies. The terms of the new members added pursuant to the bill start on January 1, 2017, as specified.

Members of the council continue to serve without compensation, but remain entitled to reimbursement for expenses in accordance with the Standard State Travel Regulations.

Background: MSDE first assumed responsibility for educating juveniles within residential facilities operated by DJS in 2003, when it assumed control over educational programming at one facility. Chapter 535 of 2004 expanded on these efforts and required MSDE to provide educational services in all of the residential facilities within specified timeframes. Chapter 535 also established the Coordinating Council for Juvenile Services Educational Programs. By July 1, 2013, MSDE had assumed control of educational programming within all DJS facilities.

MSDE advises that the council meets twice per year and has provided input on the development and implementation of instructional services administered within DJS facilities. It further indicates that it currently solicits input outside of the council from a variety of stakeholders, including the community college system and local school system superintendents, through other meetings and communication channels.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City; Frederick, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties; Maryland State Department of Education; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 10, 2016
mel/rhh

Analysis by: Jennifer K. Botts

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