

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
First Reader

House Bill 185 (Prince George's County Delegation)  
Ways and Means

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Prince George's County Board of Education – Students With a Disability in  
Prince George's County Public Schools – Report PG 506–18

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This bill requires the Prince George's County Board of Education to gather specified information related to students with a disability in each public school in the county. The county board must also study whether (1) students with a disability have disproportionate adverse outcomes; (2) there is a disproportionate representation of students with a disability among specified racial and ethnic groups; (3) public school facilities provide sufficient accommodation for students with a disability; and (4) staffing is adequate to meet the needs of students with a disability. The county board must report its findings to the Prince George's County Delegation to the General Assembly by January 20, 2019. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2018.**

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Prince George's County Public Schools can handle the reporting requirement with existing resources. Revenues are not affected.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law/Background:** Maryland law requires the identification, diagnosis, examination, and education of all students with disabilities, ages 3 through 20, who are in need of special education services. The Education Article (§ 8-414) mandates the funding level by the State. In addition, § 8-406 requires the State and local education agencies to

fund nonpublic special education programs for students with disabilities for whom neither the State nor local agencies can provide an appropriate program. The proposed fiscal 2019 State budget includes \$45.0 million in special education formula aid for Prince George's County.

*Federal Requirements*

The federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires that a child with disabilities be provided a free appropriate public education, in the least restrictive environment, from birth through the end of the school year in which the student turns 21 years old, in accordance with an individualized education program (IEP) specific to the individual needs of the student. Local school systems are required to make a free appropriate public education available to students with an IEP. However, the State, under its supervisory authority required by IDEA, has the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that this obligation is met.

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**Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Prince George's County; Maryland State Department of Education; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 6, 2018  
nb/hlb

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