

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1521
(Howard County Delegation)
Economic Matters and Ways and Means

**Howard County - Sales of Residential Real Property - Notice of School District
Boundary Changes
Ho. Co. 04-20**

This bill requires a contract for the sale of residential property in Howard County to contain a specified notice related to school district boundary changes. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2020.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not directly affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: The bill does not directly affect Howard County operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The required notice must state that, by signing the addendum, the buyer is acknowledging that the Howard County Public School System schools designated for the property are subject to change and that the buyer has no assurance that the current school assignments for the property will remain in effect. The notice must state that the Howard County Board of Education periodically reviews and amends the school boundaries for each school and is ultimately responsible for any changes to the assigned schools and their boundaries.

Background: In November 2019, the Howard County Board of Education approved a redistricting plan for the 2020-2021 school year. The plan, which changes the attendance

area for more than 5,400 students in the county, was the culmination of the largest redistricting effort in the county's history. The approved redistricting plan is intended to reduce overcrowding and advance socioeconomic equity.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); *The Baltimore Sun*; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 23, 2020
md/jkb

Analysis by: Donavan A. Ham

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