

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2025 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**First Reader**

Senate Bill 845 (Senator Hettleman)  
Education, Energy, and the Environment

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**Local Education Agencies - Educator Screening - NASDTEC Clearinghouse  
(School Personnel Vetting and Hiring Transparency Act)**

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This bill requires each local school system in Maryland to become an associate member of the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) and use its Educator Identification Clearinghouse to screen all current and prospective educators, beginning July 1, 2025. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.**

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The bill applies only to local school systems.

**Local Effect:** Expenditures for some local school systems increase by \$500 annually for NASDTEC membership dues and administrative costs, which can be absorbed with existing resources. Revenues are not affected.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Associate membership in NASDTEC may be granted to institutions of higher education, local school systems, schools, organizations, or individuals ineligible for Jurisdictional Membership, as specified. Annual dues for an associate member is \$500.

**Local Expenditures:** Several local school systems report already using the NASDTEC clearinghouse, including Anne Arundel County Public Schools, Frederick County Public Schools, and Montgomery County Public Schools. Any subscription fees for local school systems that are not already members of NASDTEC or administrative costs associated with using the clearinghouse are likely minimal and absorbable.

**Additional Comments:** The [NASDTEC Educator Identification Clearinghouse](#) is the national collection point for professional educator discipline actions taken by the fifty states, the District of Columbia, U.S. Department of Defense Educational Opportunity schools, and Guam. NASDTEC, through the clearinghouse, maintains a database of all disciplinary actions reported by NASDTEC members and disseminates this information to all participating NASDTEC jurisdictions. The goal of the clearinghouse is to provide each NASDTEC member state/jurisdiction with a notification of an action taken against the certificate/license of an educator by other member states/jurisdictions and in doing so, to protect the interests of children served by the professional education community within the United States and beyond.

Once an educator's misconduct case is final and the results made public, the prosecuting jurisdiction reports to the clearinghouse information on the adverse action taken against a license or certificate, including public reprimands and denials. The clearinghouse organizes the data and makes it accessible to NASDTEC members who can then compare the information to their current lists of licensed educators and applicants. In addition, the clearinghouse enables its members to maintain a comprehensive database, so every licensure applicant in a given jurisdiction can be checked against records in the clearinghouse. While the presence of a name in the database does not necessarily preclude an individual from successfully obtaining a license in a jurisdiction, it does provide the governing agency a safety net enabling officials to review the nature of the adverse action before issuing the certificate or license.

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### **Additional Information**

**Recent Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

**Designated Cross File:** HB 1025 (Delegate Moon) - Ways and Means.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland State Department of Education; Anne Arundel County Public Schools; Baltimore County Public Schools; Frederick County Public Schools; Montgomery County Public Schools; Prince George's County Public Schools; Wicomico County Public Schools; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 27, 2025  
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