

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1362
Ways and Means

(Delegate Carter, *et al.*)

Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners - Membership

This bill increases membership on the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners from 10 to 15 members and alters the selection process for board members. Five members must be jointly appointed by the Mayor and the Governor; one member must be elected from each of seven board of education election districts established in the bill; one member must be elected from the city at large; and two student members must be appointed by the Associated Student Congress of Baltimore City. In addition, the bill extends board member terms from three to four years and provides for board member compensation. The board chairman receives \$7,500 annually and, with the exception of student members, other board members receive \$5,000 annually.

The terms of board members serving on October 1, 2006 terminate on December 4, 2006.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Baltimore City expenditures would increase by \$39,375 in FY 2007 and by \$67,500 annually beginning in FY 2008 to pay board member compensation. Revenues would not be affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners consists of nine voting members, who are jointly appointed by the Governor and the Mayor of Baltimore,

and one student member. The nine appointed members serve three-year terms and are not entitled to compensation. The student member serves a one-year term.

Background: The Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners is 1 of 10 appointed school boards in the State. Another 13 local boards of education are elected, and 1, the Dorchester County board, is in the process of transitioning from an appointed board to an elected board. The selection method and number of school board members for each of the 24 local boards are shown in **Exhibit 1**. None of Maryland’s school boards use the selection process proposed in this bill.

Exhibit 1
Local Boards of Education
Members and Selection Methods

<u>County</u>	<u>Full Voting Members</u>	<u>Appointed Members</u>	<u>Elected Members From County At Large</u>	<u>Elected Members From Districts</u>	<u>Student Member(s)</u>
Allegany	5	0	5	0	1
Anne Arundel	7	7	0	0	1
Baltimore City	9	9	0	0	1
Baltimore	11	11	0	0	1
Calvert	5	0	2	3	1
Caroline	5	5	0	0	0
Carroll	5	0	5	0	1
Cecil*	5	5	0	0	1
Charles	7	0	7	0	1
Dorchester	6	3	0	3	2
Frederick	7	0	7	0	1
Garrett	5	0	2	3	1
Harford	7	7	0	0	1
Howard	5	0	5	0	0
Kent	5	0	5	0	1
Montgomery	7	0	2	5	1
Prince George’s**	9	9	0	0	1
Queen Anne’s	5	5	0	0	0
St. Mary’s	5	0	1	4	1
Somerset	5	0	0	5	2

<u>County</u>	<u>Full Voting Members</u>	<u>Appointed Members</u>	<u>Elected Members From County At Large</u>	<u>Elected Members From Districts</u>	<u>Student Member(s)</u>
Talbot*	7	7	0	0	1
Washington	7	0	7	0	1
Wicomico	7	7	0	0	0
Worcester	7	0	0	7	3

*The Cecil and Talbot county boards will begin transitioning to elected boards at the 2006 general election.

**The Prince George's County board will revert to an elected board at the 2006 general election.

Local Fiscal Effect: The new members of the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners will be elected or appointed in November 2006 and will begin serving their terms in December 2006. The board chairman is entitled to annual compensation of \$7,500, and the other 12 nonstudent members are entitled to \$5,000 annually. Accordingly, Baltimore City expenditures will increase by approximately \$39,375 in fiscal 2007, which reflects seven months of payments, and by \$67,500 annually thereafter.

Baltimore City advises that expense reimbursements for members are assumed to be minimal and absorbable with existing budgeted resources.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: A similar bill was introduced in 2004 as HB 857 and received an unfavorable report from the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland State Department of Education, Baltimore City, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 1, 2006
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