

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1298
Ways and Means

(Delegate McMillan, *et al.*)

Anne Arundel County - Superintendent of Schools - Compensation

This bill prohibits the Anne Arundel County Board of Education from compensating the county superintendent of schools for nonsalary benefits (1) earned while employed by any other board of education or public school system or (2) earned while employed by the county at a rate computed and paid in a manner greater than that computed and paid to a classroom teacher in the county school system.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill's restrictions on nonsalary compensation may affect total compensation for future public school superintendents, but the effect is indeterminate.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Each county superintendent must devote full time to public school business and is entitled to compensation as set by the local board of education. The salary of a county superintendent may not be decreased during the superintendent's term of office. A county superintendent serves for a four-year term, beginning July 1. The appointment of a county superintendent must be approved in writing by the State Superintendent of Schools.

Background: The current superintendent of schools for Anne Arundel County receives a base annual salary of \$257,000 and the county board of education contributes \$20,000

annually to a retirement fund for the superintendent. The county board of education may annually award a salary increase or bonus pay based upon a performance evaluation. Also, Anne Arundel County advises that the current superintendent was compensated for sick leave accumulated while employed by another local school system and that the county board generally fully covers health care costs for its superintendents.

An Anne Arundel County public school classroom teacher may choose from a variety of medical, dental, and vision coverage plans. Presently, the employee share of premiums ranges from 6% to 25% for medical coverage and is approximately 20% for each dental coverage option and for optional vision coverage. A classroom teacher is also responsible for certain co-pay amounts, depending on the coverage plan(s) chosen.

Local Expenditures: Compensation packages for future Anne Arundel County public school superintendents may be affected because nonsalary benefits will be restricted to specified rates, and nonsalary benefits earned while employed by another board of education or public school system (*e.g.*, earned annual or sick leave) may not be received as compensation. However, any expenditure savings resulting from restrictions on nonsalary benefits may be (partially, fully, or more than fully) offset by base salary amounts for future Anne Arundel County public school superintendents that are higher than they might be without specified restrictions on nonsalary compensation. The impact on future county expenditures is therefore indeterminate.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Anne Arundel County, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 25, 2013
mlm/hlb

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