

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2016 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 87

(Montgomery County Delegation)

Ways and Means

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Montgomery County Board of Education - Student Member - Voting
MC 11-16

This bill repeals certain voting rights exceptions for the student member of the Montgomery County Board of Education so that the student member is required to vote on matters relating to capital and operating budgets; school closings, reopenings, and boundaries; and collective bargaining. The bill also authorizes the student member to attend executive sessions that relate to collective bargaining.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2016.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: None. Expanding the voting rights of the student member of the Montgomery County Board of Education does not affect local finances.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Unless invited by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Montgomery County Board of Education, the student member may not attend an executive session that relates to collective bargaining or certain personnel hearings. The student member must vote on all matters before the board except those relating to:

- grounds and procedures for suspension or dismissal of teachers, principals, and other professional personnel;
- collective bargaining;
- capital and operating budgets; and
- school closings, reopening, and boundaries.

Background: As shown in **Exhibit 1**, the majority of the 24 local school systems in Maryland have statutory provisions for the inclusion of student members on their school boards. Of the 20 local school systems with provisions for student members, 13 have nonvoting student members, 6 have student members with limited voting rights, and 1, Anne Arundel County, has a student member with full voting rights.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: HB 86 of 2015 passed the House and received a favorable report from the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee but was not reported to the floor before the General Assembly adjourned *sine die*.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 1, 2016
min/hlb

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Exhibit 1
Local Boards of Education
Statutory Authority for Student Membership and Voting Rights

County	Student Member(s)	Voting Rights
Allegany	1	Nonvoting
Anne Arundel	1	Full voting
Baltimore City	1	Limited voting
Baltimore	1	Limited voting
Calvert	1	Nonvoting
Caroline	2	Nonvoting
Carroll	1	Nonvoting
Cecil	1	Nonvoting
Charles	1	Nonvoting
Dorchester	2	Nonvoting
Frederick	1	Nonvoting
Garrett	1	Nonvoting
Harford	1	Limited voting
Howard	1	Limited voting
Kent	0	
Montgomery	1	Limited voting
Prince George's	1	Limited voting
Queen Anne's	2	Nonvoting
St. Mary's	1	Nonvoting
Somerset	0	
Talbot	1	Nonvoting
Washington	0	
Wicomico	0	
Worcester	3	Nonvoting
