

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 909
Ways and Means

(Delegate Cryor, *et al.*)

Judicial Proceedings

Education - Registered Child Sexual Offenders Attending Public School

This bill authorizes a local school superintendent to refuse to enroll a child sexual offender in a particular public school. If this authority is used, a local school superintendent must provide an alternative education program for the child sexual offender.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The legislation is enabling and does not mandate placement of child sexual offenders in alternative education programs. Any increase in referrals to alternative education programs would be at the discretion of the local superintendents and would presumably be absorbed within existing resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Not more than five working days after receiving a registration statement of a child sexual offender, a local law enforcement unit must send written notice of the registration to the local superintendent of schools in the jurisdiction where the child sexual offender resides, works, or attends school. The superintendent must notify principals as necessary to ensure the protection of students from the child sexual offender.

Background: There are approximately 2,650 individuals on the child sexual offender registry. It is not known how many of these individuals are school-age and would attempt to register in a public school, but the number is expected to be relatively small.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland State Department of Education, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 16, 2004
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