Maryland State Board of Education
February 28, 2012
Legislative Synopsis 2

HB 196 Student Health and Fitness Act

Requiring that a public school student in elementary school be provided a daily program of physical activity totaling at least 150 minutes of physical activity each week, including at least 90 minutes of physical education; requiring that the program of physical activity for a specified category of student be consistent with a specified plan for the student; requiring public elementary schools to designate a specified group to plan and coordinate specified activities; etc.

HB 208 Baltimore City Public School System - Governance

Altering the appointment process of specified members of the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners; altering the composition and purpose of the board; making the board responsible for functions assigned to it by the Chief Executive Officer of the board; repealing specified powers and functions of the board; requiring the Mayor to employ the Chief Executive Officer and establish a salary; requiring the board to establish a specified personnel system proposed by the Chief Executive Officer; etc.

HB 373/SB 362 Age for Compulsory Public School Attendance - Exemptions

Altering from 16 to 17 the maximum age at which children are required to attend a public school regularly during the entire school year, subject to specified exceptions; etc.

HB 384 Baltimore County Public Schools - Enrollment and Transfer - Parental Decision

Authorizing the parent or guardian of a student eligible for enrollment in Baltimore County public schools to decide to enroll the student in a public school other than the public school to which the student was assigned by the Baltimore County Board of Education, beginning in the 2013-2014 school year; requiring all public schools to be open to specified students on a space-available basis under specified circumstances; etc.

HB 496 Child Abuse and Neglect - Failure to Report - Penalties

Establishing that specified persons who are required to provide notice or make a report of suspected child abuse or neglect, while acting in their professional capacities, may not knowingly fail to give the notice or make the report; establishing that any other person, under specified circumstances, who has reason to believe a child has been subjected to child abuse or neglect is required to make a specified report; establishing a misdemeanor for knowingly failing to report child abuse or neglect; and establishing penalties.

HB 497/SB 621 Epinephrine Availability and Use - Policy Requirements

Requiring each county board of education to establish a policy to authorize specified school personnel to administer auto-injectable epinephrine to specified students under specified circumstances; requiring the policy to include specified information; providing that the policy may authorize a school nurse to obtain and store at a public school auto-injectable epinephrine for specified purposes; requiring specified public schools to submit a specified report to the State Department of Education; etc.

HB 514 State Board of Education - Study on the Use of Prefabricated School Construction

Requiring the State Board of Education to conduct a study on the use of prefabricated school construction in Maryland; requiring the State Board of Education to report to the General Assembly on or before a specified date; and providing for the termination of the Act.

HB 515/SB 476 Financial Education and Capability Commission

Establishing the Financial Education and Capability Commission; providing for the composition, co-chairs, and staffing of the Commission; prohibiting a member of the Commission from receiving specified compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of specified expenses; requiring the Commission to meet at least two times each year; requiring the Commission to monitor the implementation of specified public and private initiatives and make specified recommendations; etc.

HB 537/SB 783 State Personnel - Collective Bargaining - Applicability

Providing specified collective bargaining rights to specified State employees; specifying the responsibilities of the State Labor Relations Board in administering and enforcing specified provisions of law relating to the collective bargaining rights of specified employees; and requiring the State Labor Relations Board to create bargaining units for specified employees.

HB 542 Public Schools - Student Attendance - Preventing Chronic Absenteeism

Requiring public schools to maintain a record of the daily attendance of students in kindergarten through 12th grade using a specified identifier, to calculate and maintain a record of specified attendance information, and to submit a report to the county board of education that includes specified student attendance information for each grading period each year; requiring each county board to calculate and maintain a specified record of countywide student attendance information; etc.

HB 567/SB 329 Parent-Teacher Meetings - Unpaid Leave

Authorizing an employee to use unpaid leave to attend a parent-teacher meeting; requiring an employee to notify the employer at least 3 days before the employee will use unpaid leave to attend a parent-teacher meeting; prohibiting an employee who uses unpaid leave under the Act from using more than 4 hours per parent-teacher meeting and from using unpaid leave more than twice per each half of an academic year; providing that the Act may not be construed to affect specified collective bargaining agreements; etc.

HB 660/SB 586 State Aid - Grant to Limit Decreases in Funding

Requiring the State to provide a specified grant to a county board of education in specified fiscal years if specified funding provided to a county board decreases by a specified amount; and requiring a study on the adequacy of education funding to include the impact on State funding of declining enrollments in specified local school systems.

HB 661 State Retirement and Pension System - Local Employer Contributions - Educators and Educational Staff

Providing for the calculation of a payment of a portion of employer contributions for local school board employees and community college employees who are members of the Teachers' Retirement System or the Teachers' Pension System; requiring counties to pay a portion of the employer contributions for local school board employees and community college employees who are members of the Teachers' Retirement System or the Teachers' Pension System; etc.

HB 680 Development of Guidelines to Incorporate Sustainable Agricultural Education

Requiring the State Board of Education and the University of Maryland Extension, after consultation with local boards of education, the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, and other organizations that promote education about sustainable agriculture, to jointly develop guidelines to incorporate education about sustainable agriculture into the existing science curricula; and terminating the Act after May 31, 2014.

HB 699/SB 566 Home Visiting Accountability Act of 2012

Requiring the State to fund only evidence-based and promising home visiting programs for improving parent and child outcomes, as provided in the State budget; requiring specified home visiting programs to submit regular reports; requiring the development of reporting and monitoring procedures for specified home visiting programs by the Governor's Office for Children and the agencies of the Children's Cabinet; etc.

HB 745/SB 689 Maryland Advisory Council for Virtual Learning - Establishment

Establishing the Maryland Advisory Council for Virtual Learning within the Department of Education; requiring the Department to provide staff for the Council; establishing the mission of the Council; identifying the membership of the Council; establishing the membership term; requiring the State Superintendent or the Governor to appoint a member in the event of a vacancy; requiring the Council members to elect the Council chair; etc.

HB 757/SB 605 Children in State-Supervised Care - Geographical Attendance Area

Authorizing a child to remain in a school in a specified geographical attendance area regardless of whether the child resides within the area under specified circumstances; requiring that specified determinations regarding the best interests of children in State- supervised care be made in accordance with specified factors; requiring a county superintendent to allow a child to remain at a school in the county regardless of where the child is currently domiciled under specified circumstances; etc.

HB 831 Public Schools - Parent Trigger

Authorizing parents and legal guardians of students attending public schools that are subject to corrective action and are not making adequate yearly progress to petition county boards of education to implement interventions; requiring county boards to notify the State Superintendent of Schools and the State Board of Education on receipt of petitions and of the final dispositions regarding the petitions; etc.

HB 855 State Lottery Agency - Education Lottery

Requiring the State Lottery Agency to conduct a specified monthly lottery for the benefit of the public school systems in the State; requiring the Comptroller to pay to the public school systems in the State a specified percentage of the money that remains in the State Lottery Fund from the proceeds of a certain lottery after a specified distribution; requiring the Agency to meet specified advertising criteria in conducting the lottery; etc.

HB 886/SB 524 Maryland After-School and Summer Opportunity Fund Program

Transferring the Maryland After-School Opportunity Fund Program from the State Department of Education to the Governor's Office for Children; altering the name of the Program; limiting grant eligibility to nonprofit organizations and establishing parameters for awarding grants; etc.

HB 1014 State Department of Education - Regulation Adoption Process

Requiring the State Department of Education to hold public hearings on specified proposed regulations that contain a funding mandate or that will have a significant impact on local school systems; requiring the Department to hold a public hearing, make available written public comments, and respond to issues raised about the specified proposed regulations; and requiring the Department to provide specified information to the State Board a specified time period before the Board's meeting on final adoption of the proposed regulations.

HB 1217 Public Charter Schools - Chartering Authorities, Application Requirements, and Funding

Expanding the purpose of the Public Charter School Program; expanding the definition of a public charter school; authorizing the State Board of Education to be a primary chartering authority for the granting of a charter to a public charter school applicant; requiring a county board of education or the State Board to take specified actions when reviewing, evaluating, and making a decision on a charter school application; requiring each county board to disburse a specified amount of funds to each public charter school; etc.

HB 1218 Public Charter Schools - Chartering Authorities, Application Requirements, Employees, and Facility Funding

Authorizing the State Board of Education to be a primary chartering authority for the granting of a charter to a public charter school applicant; requiring an application to the State Board to establish a public charter school to include specified information; requiring specified public charter schools to receive an annual per pupil facilities allotment; establishing the Public Charter School Facility Revolving Loan Fund; requiring the Governor to provide a specified amount of money in the State budget for the Fund; etc.

HB 1256/SB 613 Child Sexual Abuse Reporting - Training of School Employees

Requiring the State Board of Education to develop a model program by December 31, 2012, for training professional school employees on the prevention, identification, and reporting of child sexual abuse; requiring that the model program include specified information; authorizing the model program to include a specified sexual abuse prevention curriculum; requiring county boards of education and specified nonpublic schools to develop a mandatory training program for all professional school employees by a specified date; etc.

SB 293 Core Content Areas - Accountability Program

Requiring the State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Schools to assist each county board of education to establish goals that conform with specified objectives for subject areas that include science and social studies; requiring each public school to survey current student achievement in science and social studies; requiring the State Board and the State Superintendent to design and implement assessment programs in specified subjects; requiring specified grade band assessments and end-of-course assessments to be established; etc.

SB 307/HB 191 Financial Literacy Curriculum - Graduation Requirement

Requiring the State Board of Education to develop curriculum content for a course in financial literacy; requiring each county board of education to implement the financial literacy curriculum content developed by the State Board in every high school in the county; and requiring students to complete a course in financial literacy in order to graduate from high school.

SB 564 Student Health and Fitness Act

Requiring that a public school student in elementary school be provided a daily program of physical education totaling at least 150 minutes each week; requiring that the program of physical education for a specified category of student be consistent with a specified plan for the student; requiring public elementary schools to designate a specified group to plan and coordinate the physical education program; etc.

SB 674/HB 1219 Primary and Secondary Education - Online Courses - Local Approval and Reporting Requirements

Authorizing a county board of education to procure online courses and services that the county board has approved as being high quality and in alignment with specified State standards; requiring a county board that has approved an online course to submit a specified report to the State Department of Education; and making the Act an emergency measure.

SB 735/HB 1222 Online Courses - Approval Processing Fees

Authorizing the State Board of Education to set reasonable fees for the costs incurred by the State Department of Education for processing approvals for online courses and services.

SB 736/HB 1215 Primary and Secondary Education - Online Courses - Acceptance of Courses Approved by Other States

Authorizing the State Department of Education or a county board of education to procure online courses and services that have been approved by a state that the Department has determined has curriculum content standards consistent with the Maryland content standards; and making the Act an emergency measure.

SB 844/HB 1216 Partnership for Student Education and Community Investment Tax Credit

Providing a tax credit against the State income tax for contributions made to specified student assistance organizations; requiring the Department of Business and Economic Development to administer the tax credit; requiring specified entities to submit an application to be a student assistance organization by January 1 of each year; establishing the Partnership for Student Education and Community Investment Tax Credit Reserve Fund; applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2011; etc.

SB 848 Maintenance of Effort - Waivers

Requiring a county to apply to the State Board of Education for a waiver from the maintenance of effort requirement under specified circumstances; establishing a penalty for a county that fails to apply for a waiver and fails to fund the maintenance of effort requirement; establishing the following year's required maintenance of effort amount under specified circumstances; etc.

SB 851 Maintenance of Effort - Waiver of Penalty

Waiving the penalty for not meeting the maintenance of effort requirement in a specified year.

SB 863/HB 1110 Dating Violence - Kristen Marie Mitchell Law

Adding dating violence to provisions of law requiring the reporting of incidents of specified conduct by a county board of education; altering the content of a specified form and report, policies, and educational programs to include incidents of dating violence; requiring the State Board of Education to develop, by a specified date, a model policy that includes a prohibition on dating violence; altering the date by which each county board is required to submit a specified policy to the State Superintendent of Schools; etc.

SB 867 State Department of Education - Oral Health Education - Certification and Monitoring

Requiring each county superintendent to certify to the State Superintendent of Schools on or before September 1 of each year that oral health education, including oral disease prevention and dental health promotion, is being taught in the county; etc.

SB 876/HB 1210 Public School Teachers and Administrators - Appeals and Layoffs - Rights and Limitations

Limiting the review by the State Board of Education of the decision of a county board to suspend or dismiss specified public school teachers and administrators to a review on the record; requiring public school employers to negotiate teacher layoff policies as part of collective bargaining; requiring the use of performance evaluations in policies relating to teacher layoff decisions; etc.

SB 878 Preschool for All - Establishment and Funding

Establishing specified funding for prekindergarten students by altering a specified definition to include prekindergarten students in the number of students enrolled; altering a specified funding calculation to phase in a reduction of specified funding; altering a specified definition to make specified children eligible for prekindergarten; etc.