

FAIRNESS IN NEGOTIATIONS ACT

The bill establishes a process for a neutral third party to decide labor disputes between local public school employer and local public school employees within a specific time frame with a decision that is binding on both parties.

- There is no fiscal impact to the State.
- Preserves the fiscal relationship between the county and the local school board.
- Requires labor board to consider the local board's ability to fund a final order.
- Requires the labor board to balance the interests and welfare of the public against the interests of employees.
- Establishes a timeline for the negotiations between local board of education and the local K-12 employee association to be completed.
- Addresses concerns raised by Maryland Association of Counties, the Maryland Association of Boards of Education, the Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland and the Maryland Negotiations Service.
- Establishes a process for a neutral third party to resolve differences between two parties that adds strong incentive for both sides to come to agreement early.
- Makes procedures for assignments and transfers for teachers subjects for bargaining.