

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2026 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader - Revised**

House Bill 1000  
Ways and Means

(Delegate McCaskill, *et al.*)

Education, Energy, and the Environment

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**Public Schools - School Mapping Data - Radius of School Grounds**

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This bill requires that, beginning July 1, 2026, school mapping data produced with funding from the School Mapping Data Program contain site-specific labeling for bodies of water in the one-mile radius surrounding the school grounds. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.**

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill likely has no material effect on general fund expenditures as the required labeling can be incorporated into future maps with existing resources. However, to the extent that existing maps must be updated with the required labeling, general fund expenditures may increase, as discussed below. The Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC) can update mapping standards with existing resources. No effect on revenues.

**Local Effect:** Local school system can likely incorporate the required labelling into future school maps with existing grant funding, but if the bill is interpreted to require updating existing maps, local revenues and expenditures may increase, potentially significantly, as discussed below.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Chapters 166 and 167 of 2024 established the School Mapping Data Program in the Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS) to provide funds to local school systems to produce school mapping data for each public school in the county, including charter schools. Local school systems can apply for funding from the program, and any

school mapping data produced with funding from the program must comply with standards developed by IAC. The Acts further specified minimum requirements for school mapping data, including that it be (1) compatible with software platforms used by the school and public safety agencies that provide emergency services to the school, as specified and (2) be verified for accuracy by a walk-through of the school buildings and grounds.

The fiscal 2026 budget, as enacted, included an appropriation of \$3.0 million for the program.

**State/Local Fiscal Effect:** MCSS advises that, of the original \$3.0 million appropriation for the School Mapping Data Program, it has awarded \$2.3 million to local school systems, covering 976 schools. This leaves 446 schools without grant funding and \$700,000 in unallocated funds.

IAC, which is responsible for developing mapping standards and has worked with the Department of Information Technology to make data available for the maps, advises that schools that have not yet developed their maps with the grant funding can incorporate the required labeling of bodies of water with existing grant funds. However, IAC notes that the bill is not clear regarding the status of school maps that have already been created. The bill specifies that maps must include the labeling for bodies of water beginning July 1, 2026, but does not specify whether this requirement applies only to maps *created* after that date, or whether existing maps must also add the labeling by that date.

IAC advises that adding labeling to existing maps is costly and likely requires additional grant funding for each map, although a reliable estimate is not feasible. Thus, to the extent that the intent of the bill is to require only new maps created on or after July 1, 2026, to incorporate the labeling, general fund expenditures are not affected. However, to the extent that the bill applies to existing maps, general fund expenditures increase by an indeterminate but potentially significant amount to provide additional grant funding to local school systems, and local school system revenues and expenditures increase commensurately to add the labeling to existing maps.

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### **Additional Information**

**Recent Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland Center for School Safety; Interagency Commission on School Construction; Baltimore City Public Schools; Baltimore County Public Schools; Prince George's County Public Schools; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 20, 2026  
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