

Chapter 299

(House Bill 439)

AN ACT concerning

Education – Innovative School Scheduling Models – Low-Performing and At-Risk Public Schools

FOR the purpose of requiring the State Board of Education to explore the use of certain school scheduling models in certain schools; requiring the State Board to encourage certain county boards of education to use certain school scheduling models in certain schools; ~~requiring the State of Maryland to include the funding of certain scheduling models in certain schools as part of the State's application to the United States Department of Education for the Race to the Top Fund;~~ making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to the use of innovative school scheduling models in low-performing and at-risk public schools.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Education
Section 7-103(e)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2008 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Education
Section 7-103.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2008 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Education

7-103.

(e) (1) The county boards of Allegany, Anne Arundel, Calvert, Howard, and Montgomery counties, and the Board of School Commissioners of Baltimore City, may elect to operate one or more schools within the county or Baltimore City on a year-round basis, provided that the 180-day and the minimum hour requirements under this section are met.

(2) Nothing in this section precludes a county board from conducting a year-round pilot study or program that is funded by the county board.

7-103.1.

(A) THE STATE BOARD SHALL EXPLORE THE USE OF INNOVATIVE SCHOOL SCHEDULING MODELS, INCLUDING EXTENDED YEAR, YEAR-ROUND SCHOOLING, OR OTHER SCHOOL SCHEDULING MODELS THAT DO NOT ALLOW FOR PROLONGED LAPSES IN INSTRUCTIONAL TIME, IN LOW-PERFORMING OR AT-RISK PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

(B) THE STATE BOARD SHALL ENCOURAGE COUNTY BOARDS TO USE THESE THE SCHOOL SCHEDULING MODELS THAT ARE DETERMINED TO BE MOST EFFECTIVE IN ENHANCING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT IN LOW-PERFORMING OR AT-RISK PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the State of Maryland shall include the funding of grants, pilot programs, and other economic incentives and implementation costs of extended year, year-round, and other innovative school scheduling models that do not allow for prolonged lapses in instructional time in low-performing or at-risk public schools as part of the State's application to the United States Department of Education for the Race to the Top Fund, authorized under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.~~

SECTION ~~2~~ 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted.

Approved by the Governor, May 4, 2010.