

Chapter 570

(House Bill 1131)

AN ACT concerning

Commission on the Establishment of a Maryland Educators Service Memorial

FOR the purpose of establishing the Commission on the Establishment of a Maryland Educators Service Memorial; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Commission; requiring that the members of the Commission be appointed on or before a certain date; prohibiting a member of the Commission from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; specifying the duties of the Commission; requiring the Commission to report its initial findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Commission on the Establishment of a Maryland Educators Service Memorial.

Preamble

WHEREAS, Maryland educators dedicate their lives on a daily basis in service to the learning, care, safety, and future of the children in the State; and

WHEREAS, Educators are committed to nurturing the intellectual growth and character development of Maryland's children and, because of their work, instill in the children a spirit of lifelong learning and good citizenship that enriches the State; and

WHEREAS, Educators provide a safe and welcoming learning environment that honors every child, their heritage, and their contributions; and

WHEREAS, The State recognizes the heroic service of educators in response to the tragedies of school violence and, in doing so, also seeks to recognize the everyday heroic acts shown through the dedication, compassion, and commitment of educators across the State; and

WHEREAS, The creation of the Maryland Educators Service Memorial would recognize the sacrifices, commitment, dedication, and contribution of all Maryland educators past, present, and future, and ensure that their service to the State and its children will be remembered and honored; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) There is a Commission on the Establishment of a Maryland Educators Service Memorial.

(b) The Commission consists of the following members:

(1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;

(2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(3) the Secretary of General Services, or the Secretary's designee;

(4) the State Superintendent of Education, or the Superintendent's designee;

(5) a member of the State Board of Education, appointed by the President of the Board; and

(6) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

(i) two retired educators who are residents of the State and who taught in the State; and

(ii) two educators who are residents of the State and who are actively employed in the State.

(c) The members of the Commission shall be appointed on or before July 15, 2013.

(d) The President and the Speaker shall appoint a Senator and a Delegate, respectively, to serve as cochairs.

(e) The State Department of Education shall provide staff for the Commission.

(f) A member of the Commission:

(1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Commission; but

(2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(g) The Commission shall:

(1) identify an appropriate site on property located within the State Capitol Complex or another appropriate site in Annapolis in close proximity to the State Capitol Complex for the location of a Maryland Educators Service Memorial;

(2) estimate the total funding required for the design, construction, and appropriate placement of the memorial;

(3) consider preliminary design ideas for the construction of the memorial;

(4) make recommendations regarding an appropriate site for the location of the memorial and the design of the memorial; and

(5) provide ongoing review and recommendations regarding the funding and construction of the memorial.

(h) On or before December 1, 2013, the Commission shall report its initial findings and recommendations to the Governor for possible inclusion in the Fiscal Year 2015 Operating and Capital Budgets and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2013. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of May 31, 2016, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, May 16, 2013.