

HOUSE BILL 653

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4lr2555

By: **Delegate Luedtke**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2014

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Deaf Culture Digital Library**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Division of Library Development and Services in the
4 Department of Education to establish the Deaf Culture Digital Library;
5 specifying the mission, duties, and responsibilities of the Deaf Culture Digital
6 Library; and generally relating to the Deaf Culture Digital Library.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Education
9 Section 23–105
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

12 BY adding to
13 Article – Education
14 Section 23–108
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Education**

20 23–105.

21 (a) In addition to any other powers granted and duties imposed by this title,
22 and subject to the authority of the State Board, the Division of Library Development
23 and Services has the powers and duties set forth in this section.

24 (b) The Division of Library Development and Services shall:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (1) Provide leadership and guidance for the planning and coordinated
2 development of library and information service in this State;

3 (2) Develop statewide public and school library services and networks,
4 resource centers, and other arrangements to meet the library and information needs of
5 this State;

6 (3) Provide professional and technical advice on improving library
7 services in this State to:

8 (i) Public and school library officials;

9 (ii) State government agencies; and

10 (iii) Any other person;

11 (4) (i) Collect library statistics and other data;

12 (ii) Identify library needs and provide for needed research and
13 studies of them;

14 (iii) Publish and distribute findings in these areas; and

15 (iv) Coordinate library services with other information and
16 education services and agencies;

17 (5) Administer federal and State funds appropriated to it by the State
18 for library purposes;

19 (6) (i) Develop and recommend professional standards and policies
20 for libraries; and

21 (ii) Establish requirements and procedures for the certification
22 of librarians and library personnel;

23 (7) Provide:

24 (i) Specialized library service to the blind and other physically
25 handicapped individuals in this State; and

26 (ii) Other desirable specialized library services;

27 (8) Encourage, advise, and assist in establishing, operating, and
28 coordinating libraries at State institutions and agencies and administer the operation
29 of library and information services for the Department;

1 (9) Administer the State grant program for county public library
2 capital projects, in accordance with § 23–510 of this title;

3 (10) Adopt guidelines for the administration of public libraries and
4 recommend to the State Board rules and regulations to implement this title;

5 (11) Cooperate with national library agencies and those of any other
6 state; [and]

7 **(12) DEVELOP A DEAF CULTURE DIGITAL LIBRARY IN**
8 **ACCORDANCE WITH § 23–108 OF THIS TITLE; AND**

9 [(12)] **(13)** Perform any other duty necessary for its proper operation.

10 **23–108.**

11 **(A) THE DIVISION OF LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES SHALL**
12 **ESTABLISH THE DEAF CULTURE DIGITAL LIBRARY AS THE PRIMARY**
13 **INFORMATION CENTER ON DEAF RESOURCES FOR LIBRARY CUSTOMERS AND**
14 **STAFF IN THE STATE.**

15 **(B) THE DEAF CULTURE DIGITAL LIBRARY SHALL:**

16 **(1) CONDUCT A NEEDS ASSESSMENT TO IDENTIFY GAPS IN**
17 **LIBRARY SERVICES FOR DEAF PATRONS AND TO IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES TO**
18 **FILL THE GAPS AND BETTER COORDINATE LIBRARY SERVICES FOR THE DEAF;**

19 **(2) IN COORDINATION WITH THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF DEAF**
20 **AND HARD OF HEARING, DEVELOP AND PROVIDE SENSITIVITY TRAINING FOR**
21 **STATE AND COUNTY LIBRARY STAFF TO HELP THEM BETTER UNDERSTAND**
22 **DEAF PATRONS AND THEIR NEEDS;**

23 **(3) DEVELOP A WEB SITE THAT WILL ALLOW FOR**
24 **INFORMATION SHARING AND COORDINATION BETWEEN THE DEAF CULTURE**
25 **DIGITAL LIBRARY AND COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEMS;**

26 **(4) IN COORDINATION WITH THE DIVISION OF LIBRARY**
27 **DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES, DEVELOP DEAF-RELATED PROGRAMS AND**
28 **MATERIALS AND SHARE THEM WITH COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEMS AND OTHER**
29 **LIBRARIES IN THE STATE;**

30 **(5) DEVELOP PARTNERSHIPS AND STRATEGIC ALLIANCES WITH**
31 **FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENTITIES, INCLUDING:**

1 **(I) THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE FOR THE DEAF AND HARD**
2 **OF HEARING;**

3 **(II) COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEMS;**

4 **(III) THE DIVISION OF LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT AND**
5 **SERVICES;**

6 **(IV) VETERANS’ GROUPS;**

7 **(V) STATE AND LOCAL ARTS COUNCILS;**

8 **(VI) SENIOR CITIZENS ORGANIZATIONS;**

9 **(VII) DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING ORGANIZATIONS,**
10 **INCLUDING:**

11 **1. THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF;**

12 **2. THE HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA;**

13 **AND**

14 **3. THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF;**

15 **(6) ENCOURAGE PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS WITH**
16 **INFORMATION SERVICE PROVIDERS TO HELP PROVIDE VIRTUAL ACCESS TO**
17 **INFORMATION AND RESEARCH;**

18 **(7) FORM A DEAF CULTURE DIGITAL LIBRARY ADVISORY**
19 **BOARD, THE MAJORITY OF WHOSE MEMBERS ARE CULTURALLY DEAF OR**
20 **DEAF-SENSITIVE INDIVIDUALS, TO PROVIDE ADVICE ON INITIATIVES THAT**
21 **FURTHER ADVANCE THE MISSION AND GOALS OF THE DEAF CULTURE DIGITAL**
22 **LIBRARY; AND**

23 **(8) ESTABLISH A DEAF CULTURE DIGITAL LIBRARY “FRIENDS**
24 **OF THE LIBRARY” GROUP COMPOSED OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE STRONGLY**
25 **COMMITTED, WELL-POSITIONED, AND ABLE TO PROMOTE COMMUNITY**
26 **INVOLVEMENT, ADVOCACY, AND FUNDING FOR THE DEAF CULTURE DIGITAL**
27 **LIBRARY.**

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
29 October 1, 2014.