

# SENATE BILL 461

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CF 6lr2960

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By: **Senator Conway**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2016

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Prekindergarten Students – Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing certain funding for prekindergarten students by altering  
4 the definition of full-time equivalent enrollment to include prekindergarten  
5 students in the number of students enrolled for purposes of calculating certain State  
6 aid formulas for education; making stylistic changes; and generally relating to  
7 funding for prekindergarten students.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

9 Article – Education

10 Section 5–202(a)(1) and (5) and 7–101.1(a) and (b)

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

14 Article – Education

15 Section 5–202(a)(6)

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

19 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article – Education**

21 5–202.

22 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

23 (5) “Foundation program” means the product of the annual per pupil  
24 foundation amount and a county’s full-time equivalent enrollment.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (6) “Full-time equivalent enrollment” means the sum of:

2 (i) The number of students enrolled in grades 1 through 12 or their  
3 equivalent in regular day school programs on September 30 of the [previous] PRIOR school  
4 year;

5 (ii) [Except as provided in item (iii) of this paragraph, the product of  
6 the] THE number of students enrolled in kindergarten programs on September 30 of the  
7 prior school year [and:

8 1. 0.60 in fiscal year 2004;

9 2. 0.70 in fiscal year 2005;

10 3. 0.80 in fiscal year 2006;

11 4. 0.90 in fiscal year 2007; and

12 5. 1.00 in fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter;

13 (iii) In Garrett County, the number of students enrolled in  
14 kindergarten programs on September 30 of the prior school year];[and]

15 (III) 1. THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS THAT MEET THE  
16 DEFINITION OF “ELIGIBLE CHILD” UNDER § 7-101.1 OF THIS ARTICLE WHO ARE  
17 ENROLLED IN HALF-DAY PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS ON SEPTEMBER 30 OF  
18 THE PRIOR SCHOOL YEAR MULTIPLIED BY 0.50 IN FISCAL YEAR 2018 AND EACH  
19 FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER; AND

20 2. THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS THAT MEET THE  
21 DEFINITION OF “ELIGIBLE CHILD” UNDER § 7-101.1 OF THIS ARTICLE WHO ARE  
22 ENROLLED IN FULL-DAY PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS ON SEPTEMBER 30 OF THE  
23 PRIOR SCHOOL YEAR MULTIPLIED BY 1.00 IN FISCAL YEAR 2018 AND EACH FISCAL  
24 YEAR THEREAFTER; AND

25 (iv) The number of full-time equivalent students, as determined by  
26 a regulation of the Department, enrolled in evening high school programs during the  
27 [previous] PRIOR school year.

28 7-101.1.

29 (a) (1) In this section the following terms have the meanings indicated.

1           (2) “Economically disadvantaged background” means a family whose  
2 income would make a child eligible for free or reduced price meals if the child were in  
3 kindergarten.

4           (3) “Eligible child” means a child:

5                   (i) Who is from an economically disadvantaged background;

6                   (ii) Whose parent or guardian seeks to enroll the child in a public  
7 prekindergarten program; and

8                   (iii) Who is 4 years old on September 1 of the school year in which the  
9 parent or legal guardian seeks to enroll the child in a public prekindergarten program.

10           (4) “Eligible for free or reduced price meals” means eligible for free or  
11 reduced price meals based on eligibility requirements established by the United States  
12 Department of Agriculture.

13           (b) By the 2007–2008 school year, all eligible children shall be admitted free of  
14 charge to publicly funded prekindergarten programs established by each of the county  
15 boards.

16           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
17 1, 2016.