

# HOUSE BILL 18

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EMERGENCY BILL  
(PRE-FILED)

7lr0863

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By: **Delegate Conaway**

Requested: October 13, 2016

Introduced and read first time: January 11, 2017

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Improve Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and**  
3 **Careers Scores for Maryland Public School Students**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Improve Partnership for Assessment of  
5 Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Scores for Maryland Public School  
6 Students; requiring the State Department of Education to identify certain  
7 jurisdictions for certain purposes on or before a certain date; providing for the  
8 composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task  
9 Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of  
10 certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to hold its first meeting on or before a  
11 certain date and to study and make recommendations regarding certain matters;  
12 requiring the Task Force to submit a preliminary and a final report of its findings  
13 and recommendations to certain entities on or before certain dates; making this Act  
14 an emergency measure; defining a certain term; providing for the termination of this  
15 Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Improve PARCC Scores for Maryland  
16 Public School Students.

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

19 (a) In this Act, “designated jurisdiction” means a local school system where at  
20 least 40% of students in any grade have received a level 1 designation on any subject test  
21 on the 2016 Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)  
22 assessments.

23 (b) The State Department of Education (the Department) shall identify any  
24 designated jurisdictions on or before May 1, 2017.

25 (c) There is a Task Force to Improve PARCC Scores for Maryland Public School  
26 Students.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (d) The Task Force consists of the following members:

2 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
3 the Senate;

4 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the  
5 House;

6 (3) the Secretary of Higher Education, or the Secretary's designee;

7 (4) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the State Superintendent's  
8 designee;

9 (5) the county superintendent of each designated jurisdiction, or the county  
10 superintendent's designee;

11 (6) one representative of the State Board of Education, appointed by the  
12 State Board;

13 (7) two representatives of the Maryland State Education Association  
14 (MSEA), appointed by the MSEA;

15 (8) one representative of the Baltimore Teachers Union (BTU), appointed  
16 by the BTU;

17 (9) one representative of the Public School Superintendents Association of  
18 Maryland (PSSAM), appointed by the PSSAM;

19 (10) one representative of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education  
20 (MABE), appointed by the MABE; and

21 (11) the following members appointed by each county board of education in  
22 each designated jurisdiction:

23 (i) two members representative of the designated jurisdiction, one  
24 of whom is an academic whose area of expertise is educational measurement;

25 (ii) one representative of the county board;

26 (iii) one representative of a parent-teacher association who is a  
27 parent of a student enrolled in a Maryland public school in the designated jurisdiction; and

28 (iv) one representative of the Maryland Association of Student  
29 Councils who is a student enrolled in a Maryland public school in the designated  
30 jurisdiction.

1 (e) The State Superintendent shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

2 (f) The Department shall provide staff for the Task Force, in cooperation with  
3 additional staff provided by each designated jurisdiction.

4 (g) A member of the Task Force:

5 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

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

8 (h) The Task Force shall:

9 (1) hold its first meeting on or before June 1, 2017;

10 (2) identify and analyze the best practices of local school systems in the  
11 State and in other states where at least 65% of students in any grade have received level 4  
12 or level 5 designation on 2016 PARCC assessments on any subject test, paying particular  
13 attention to those successful local school systems that serve populations resembling  
14 designated jurisdictions;

15 (3) assess how PARCC assessments have affected students with  
16 disabilities, English language learners, and students who qualify for free and reduced-price  
17 meals in designated jurisdictions;

18 (4) determine what, if any, additional curriculum resources will be needed  
19 in order to raise PARCC assessment scores in designated jurisdictions;

20 (5) assess the needs of teachers and principals in designated jurisdictions,  
21 including determining:

22 (i) what, if any, State and federal funding is available to supplement  
23 the funding State and local governments provide toward the professional development of  
24 teachers and principals; and

25 (ii) what, if any, professional development and ongoing support from  
26 local school systems is available to expand the use of technology as an instructional tool in  
27 the classroom;

28 (6) assess the technological needs of public schools in designated  
29 jurisdictions, including what resources are needed to improve PARCC assessments;

30 (7) assess how the PARCC assessments' testing window has affected the  
31 calendars and schedules of public schools in designated jurisdictions;

1           (8)    assess how local school systems in designated jurisdictions are  
2 including teachers and principals in their decisions regarding PARCC assessments;

3           (9)    analyze and evaluate the guidance local school systems in designated  
4 jurisdictions have received from the Department regarding PARCC assessments; and

5           (10)   analyze how public school students in designated jurisdictions  
6 performed on academic content areas tested in PARCC assessments.

7           (i)    On or before August 15, 2017, the Task Force shall submit a preliminary  
8 report of its findings and recommendations to the State Board and, in accordance with §  
9 2–1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

10          (j)    On or before December 31, 2017, the Task Force shall submit a final report of  
11 its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the State Board, and, in accordance  
12 with § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

13           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency  
14 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has  
15 been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three–fifths of all the members elected to  
16 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is  
17 enacted. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years from the date it is enacted and, at  
18 the end of the 2–year period, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this  
19 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.