SENATE BILL 735

F1SB 831/22 – B&T & EHE CF HB 1234

By: Senators Zucker, Feldman, Guzzone, and King King, Benson, Elfreth, Hester, Hettleman, Jackson, and McCray

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation and Education, Energy, and the Environment

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 11, 2023

CHAPTER

1 AN ACT concerning

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Workgroup to Study the Wages of Education Support Professionals

- FOR the purpose of establishing the Workgroup to Study the Wages of Education Support Professionals to determine what percentage of education support professionals in the State earn a living wage and to study increasing the wages of education support professionals to attract and retain skilled workers; and generally relating to the Workgroup to Study the Wages of Education Support Professionals.
- 8 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, 9 That:
- 10 There is a Workgroup to Study the Wages of Education Support Professionals. (a)
- 11 (b) The purpose of the Workgroup is to determine what percentage of education 12 support professionals in the State earn a living wage and to study increasing the wages of 13 education support professionals to attract and retain skilled workers.
- 14 (c) The Workgroup consists of the following members:
- (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of 15 the Senate: 16
- 17 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House; 18

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

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- 1 (3) one member of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education, 2 appointed by the Executive Director of the Association;
- 3 (4) the President of the Maryland State Education Association, or the 4 President's designee;
- 5 (5) the President of the Service Employees International Union Local 500, 6 or the President's designee;
- 7 (6) the President of the American Federation of State, County and 8 Municipal Employees Local 2250, or the President's designee;
- 9 (7) the President of the American Federation of Teachers–Maryland, or the 10 President's designee; and
- 11 (8) the Executive Director of the American Federation of State, County and 12 Municipal Employees Council 67, or the Executive Director's designee.
- 13 (d) The Workgroup shall elect the chair of the Workgroup by a majority vote at 14 the first meeting.
- 15 (e) The Maryland State Department of Education shall provide staff for the Workgroup.
- 17 (f) A member of the Workgroup:
- 18 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Workgroup; but
- 19 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State 20 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- 21 (g) In determining what percentage of education support professionals earn a 22 living wage in the State and to study increasing the wages of education support 23 professionals to attract and retain skilled workers, the Workgroup shall consider:
- 24 (1) the role of local education systems and the State in hiring education 25 support professionals;
- 26 (2) the number of education support professionals employed by the State 27 or a local school system, or as a contractor;
- 28 (3) any cost—sharing between the State and the local school systems with 29 regard to the wages and salaries of education support professionals;
- 30 (4) the total number of part-time and full-time education support 31 professionals in the State;

- 1 (5) the number of hours required to work, according to the policies of each 2 jurisdiction, to be considered a full—time employee;
- 3 (6) a complete list of education support professional classifications by 4 jurisdiction;
- 5 (7) the average hourly wage of education support professionals in the State 6 and by jurisdiction;
- 7 (8) an analysis of the wage scale for education support professionals;
- 8 (9) information on increased wages or bonuses by jurisdiction within the 9 last 5 years;
- 10 (10) the amount of vacancies in the State and by jurisdiction for education support professional jobs; and
- 12 (11) information on the future of education support professional jobs in the 13 State.
- (h) (1) On or before November 30, 2023, the Workgroup shall submit an interim report of its findings and recommendations, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the House Ways and Means Committee.
- 19 (2) On or before August 31, 2024, the Workgroup shall submit a final report 20 of its findings and recommendations, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government 21 Article, to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the Senate Education, Energy, and 22 the Environment Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the House Ways 23 and Means Committee.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2023. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 4 months and, at the end of October 31, 2024, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.