
By: Delegate Hixson (Chairman, Ways and Means Committee)

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 1996

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Calculation of State Aid**

3 FOR the purpose of conforming the law to correspond to the previous calculation, for
4 Fiscal Year 1996, of the State aid to education for basic current expenses for
5 allocation to local boards of education and in compensatory education aid.

6 Preamble

7 WHEREAS, The State share of basic current expenses and the State
8 compensatory education aid for local boards of education under Sections 5-202(b) and
9 5-202(e) of the Education Article are based on the per pupil basic current expense figure;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, This per pupil basic current expense figure is defined under Section
12 5-202(a) of the Education Article; and

13 WHEREAS, The statute requires the Maryland State Department of Education
14 to calculate the per pupil basic current expense figure by July 1 of each year; and

15 WHEREAS, An error was made in the calculation for Fiscal Year 1996 aid; and

16 WHEREAS, The correct calculation, as specified by the statute, should have
17 yielded a per pupil current expense figure of \$3,370; and

18 WHEREAS, The calculation of the per pupil current expense by the Maryland
19 State Department of Education was \$3,410; and

20 WHEREAS, The Fiscal Year 1996 current expenses and compensatory aid for
21 each local board were based on the higher figure of \$3,410, the result being that the
22 appropriations were overstated by \$15,300,000; and

23 WHEREAS, The local boards of education calculated their share of State aid
24 based on the \$15,300,000, when submitting their budgets to the local governments; and

25 WHEREAS, The local governments already have approved budgets for the local
26 educational systems based on the \$15,300,000 figure; and

27 WHEREAS, The State does not plan to reduce the Fiscal Year 1996 payments to
28 the local boards of education to correct the error; and

1 WHEREAS, This legislation will conform the statute with the actual calculations
2 that were made for Fiscal Year 1996 and will reflect legislative support for the payment of
3 the higher amount in State aid to education; and

4 WHEREAS, This change in the allocation for Fiscal Year 1996 shall have no
5 effect on future levels of State aid to education; now, therefore,

6 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
7 MARYLAND, That, for Fiscal Year 1996, the per pupil basic current expense figure is
8 \$3,410, for the purposes of calculating:

9 (1) The State share of basic current expenses for each local board of
10 education, as provided in § 5-202(b) of the Education Article; and

11 (2) Compensatory education funds provided by the State, as provided in §
12 5-202(e) of the Education Article.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 June 1, 1996.