
By: Delegate Rudolph

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 1996

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Obtaining a High School Diploma by Examination**

3 FOR the purpose of expanding provisions relating to the exemption of students in a
4 certain alternative education school from certain requirements relating to obtaining
5 a high school diploma by examination; extending the time for the State Department
6 of Education to submit a certain report; extending the termination date of certain
7 provisions of law; and generally relating to the requirements for obtaining a high
8 school diploma by examination.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Education
11 Section 7-205
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Chapter 404 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1995
16 Section 2 and 3

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 7-205.

21 (a) An individual may obtain a high school diploma by examination as provided in
22 this section if the individual:

23 (1) Has not obtained a high school certificate or diploma;

24 (2) Has resided in this State or on a federal reservation in this State for at
25 least 3 months, except that the State Board may waive this residence requirement if the
26 State Board considers the waiver justified;

27 (3) Is 16 years old or older; and

28 (4) Has withdrawn from a regular full-time public or private school program
29 for at least 3 months, except that the State Board may waive the 3-month withdrawal

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1 requirement for a student enrolled in [the Paquin School in Baltimore City] AN
2 APPROVED ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION SCHOOL if the State Board considers the waiver
3 justified.

4 (b) The State Board shall examine individuals for a high school diploma at least
5 twice each year at places throughout this State that are reasonably convenient for the
6 applicants.

7 (c) The examination shall:

8 (1) Be offered in appropriate high school subject areas; and

9 (2) Be of a comprehensive nature as determined by the State Board.

10 (d) An individual who fails an examination may take retests.

11 (e) A member of the armed forces may earn the Maryland high school diploma by
12 taking the examinations furnished by the United States Armed Forces Institute and given
13 by the appropriate service officer.

14 (f) The diploma shall be awarded in accordance with the rules and regulations
15 adopted by the State Board.

16 **Chapter 404 of the Acts of 1995**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the State Department of
18 Education shall, subject to § 2-1312 of the State Government Article, submit to the
19 General Assembly a report on the effect of exempting a [Paquin School] student
20 ENROLLED IN AN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM from the 3-month withdrawal
21 requirement on or before January 1, [1998] 1999. The report shall include the number of
22 students granted the exemption and the number of students passing the test.

23 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 July 1, 1995. It shall remain effective for a period of [3] 4 years, and at the end of June
25 30, [1998] 1999, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall
26 be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 October 1, 1996.