
By: Delegate C. Davis

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 1996

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education Coordinating Council for Correctional Institutions**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the circumstances under which inmates shall be required to
4 meet certain educational standards under certain regulations adopted by the
5 Education Coordinating Council for Correctional Institutions; expanding the
6 application of the regulations to certain inmates; extending the period of time for
7 which certain inmates are required to participate in a certain education program;
8 requiring certain inmates to participate in a vocational training program; making a
9 conforming change; altering the application of the regulations; providing for the
10 effective date of this Act; and generally relating to the duties of the Education
11 Coordinating Council for Correctional Institutions.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

13 Article - Education

14 Section 22-102

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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 22-102.

21 (a) The Education Coordinating Council for Correctional Institutions shall
22 develop and recommend an educational program for each correctional institution in the
23 Division of Correction. The programs shall meet the special needs and circumstances of
24 the inmates in the institution.

25 (b) (1) The Council shall adopt regulations for all correctional institutions in
26 the Division of Correction for the implementation of a mandatory education program for
27 all inmates who fail to attain a minimum educational standard as set forth in this
28 subsection.

29 (2) The regulations adopted by the Council shall require that:

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1 (i) 1. In [1988,] 1996, the educational standard shall be the [6th
2 grade equivalent in reading on the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE)]
3 ATTAINMENT OF A GENERAL EDUCATION DIPLOMA (G.E.D.) OR A VERIFIED HIGH
4 SCHOOL DIPLOMA;

5 2. In [1989,] 1997, the minimum educational standard shall be
6 the 7th grade equivalent in reading on the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE); and

7 3. In [1990] 1998 and thereafter, the minimum educational
8 standard shall be the 8th grade equivalent in reading on the Test of Adult Basic
9 Education (TABE);

10 (ii) The regulations shall only apply to any inmate who:

11 1. Is received by the Division of Correction after July 1, 1987;

12 2. Has [18] 12 months or more remaining to be served before a
13 mandatory supervision release date;

14 3. Is not exempted due to a medical, developmental, or learning
15 disability; AND

16 4. Does not possess a [verified] General Education Diploma
17 (G.E.D.) or a VERIFIED high school diploma; and

18 5. Does not attain a minimum educational standard in reading
19 on the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE)];

20 (iii) Any inmate who is not exempted under subparagraph (ii)3 of this
21 subsection shall participate in the mandatory education program for at least [90] 180
22 calendar days; [and]

23 (IV) AN INMATE WHO HAS NO VERIFIED WORK EXPERIENCE SHALL
24 PARTICIPATE IN A VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM; AND

25 [(iv)] (V) The Division of Correction shall report to the Parole
26 Commission the academic progress of an inmate in the mandatory education program.

27 (c) On or before June 30 of each year, the Council shall report its activities to the
28 Governor and, subject to § 2-1312 of the State Government Article, to the General
29 Assembly.

30 (d) (1) The Council shall actively advocate and promote the interests of
31 educational programs and opportunities in correctional institutions. The Council shall
32 seek to ensure that a quality education and equal educational opportunity are available to
33 all inmates at correctional institutions.

34 (2) The Council shall on a regular basis review the program of instruction
35 used in educational programs at correctional institutions to ensure that the unique
36 educational needs of the populations of correctional institutions are being satisfactorily
37 met.

38 (3) The Council shall include in its review:

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- 1 (i) Curriculum guides;
- 2 (ii) Courses of study;
- 3 (iii) Resource materials;
- 4 (iv) Textbooks;
- 5 (v) Supplementary readers;
- 6 (vi) Materials of instruction;
- 7 (vii) Visual and auditory aids;
- 8 (viii) Supplies;
- 9 (ix) Teacher performance; and
- 10 (x) Other teaching aids.

11 (4) Based on their review, the Council shall recommend and advocate
12 improvements to the educational programs at correctional institutions.

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