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**By: Delegates Marriott, C. Mitchell, McHale, Kirk, Nathan-Pulliam, Parker, Opara, Harrison, Boston, Branch, and Fulton**

Introduced and read first time: February 19, 1996

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore City - Public Schools - Educational Assistants and Paraprofessional**  
3 **Employees**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring certain public school employees in Baltimore City to be  
5 licensed; requiring the State Board of Education and the Board of School  
6 Commissioners of Baltimore City to convene a certain joint commission; requiring  
7 the joint commission to develop rules and regulations concerning licensing;  
8 requiring the State Board of Education, with the advice and assistance of the  
9 Maryland Higher Education Commission and the Board of School Commissioners  
10 of Baltimore City, to develop and administer a program of instruction for  
11 individuals who want to be licensed; and generally relating to Baltimore City's  
12 public schools.

13 BY adding to

14 Article - Education  
15 Section 6-201(h)  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
19 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article - Education**

21 6-201.

22 (H) (1) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW,  
23 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS AND PARAPROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES WHO WORK IN  
24 THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF BALTIMORE CITY IN CLASSROOMS OR WITH STUDENTS  
25 SHALL BE LICENSED BY THE STATE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS  
26 SUBSECTION.

27 (2) BEFORE JULY 1, 1997, THE STATE BOARD AND THE BOARD OF  
28 SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS OF BALTIMORE CITY SHALL CONVENE A JOINT  
29 COMMISSION TO DEVELOP RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR TRAINING, EXAMINING,  
30 AND LICENSING EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS AND PARAPROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES

HOUSE BILL 1309

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1 UNDER THIS SUBSECTION. THE COMMISSION SHALL INCLUDE AMONG ITS MEMBERS  
2 EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES.

3 (3) WHEN ISSUING LICENSES, THE STATE BOARD SHALL CONSIDER  
4 PRIOR INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICE AND PRIOR EMPLOYMENT AS AN EDUCATIONAL  
5 ASSISTANT OR A PARAPROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE BY THE BOARD OF SCHOOL  
6 COMMISSIONERS OF BALTIMORE CITY ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 1995.

7 (4) BEFORE JULY 1, 1999, THE STATE BOARD, WITH THE ADVICE AND  
8 ASSISTANCE OF THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION AND THE  
9 BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS OF BALTIMORE CITY, SHALL DEVELOP AND  
10 ADMINISTER A PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION FOR INDIVIDUALS TO BE LICENSED  
11 UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.

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