
By: Senators Amoss, Craig, and Collins

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 1996

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Primary Education - Size of Classes - Establishment of Limitations**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing certain limitations on the number of students that may
4 be enrolled in classes in certain grades; making certain exceptions; requiring the
5 State Superintendent of Schools to enforce certain provisions of law; requiring the
6 State Board of Education to adopt certain regulations; and generally relating to the
7 establishment of limitations on the size of classes for kindergartenthrough fifth
8 grade.

9 BY adding to

10 Article - Education
11 Section 7-112
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Education**

17 7-112.

18 (A) THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT SHALL ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF THIS
19 SECTION.

20 (B) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION,
21 THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF STUDENTS THAT MAY BE ENROLLED IN A CLASS FOR
22 KINDERGARTEN THROUGH FIFTH GRADE SHALL BE:

23 (1) 25 STUDENTS FOR KINDERGARTEN THROUGH THIRD GRADE; AND

24 (2) 28 STUDENTS FOR FOURTH AND FIFTH GRADE.

25 (C) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION DO NOT APPLY TO THE FOLLOWING
26 CLASSES:

27 (1) VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC;

28 (2) ART; AND

2

1 (3) PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

2 (D) (1) THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT
3 THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

4 (2) (I) THE REGULATIONS SHALL INCLUDE PROCEDURES FOR A
5 COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OR A COUNTY BOARD TO REQUEST THE STATE BOARD
6 TO EXEMPT A CLASS FROM THE APPLICABLE MANDATORY CLASS SIZE.

7 (II) A REQUEST FOR AN EXEMPTION SHALL INCLUDE:

8 1. SPECIFIC REASONS FOR THE EXEMPTION; AND

9 2. A PLAN FOR REDUCING THE SIZE OF THE CLASS BEFORE
10 THE BEGINNING OF THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR.

11 (III) THE DECISION OF THE STATE BOARD IS FINAL.

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