

---

**By: Delegate Owings**

Requested: November 15, 1996

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 1997

Assigned to: Ways and Means

---

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **County Boards of Education - Authority to Appoint County Superintendents of Schools**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing county boards of education in the State and the Board of  
4 School Commissioners of Baltimore City to appoint county superintendents of  
5 schools to terms of certain lengths; clarifying certain authority of the Board of  
6 Education in Harford County; and generally relating to the authority of county  
7 boards of education in the State.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
9 Article - Education  
10 Section 1-101(c), (d), and (e)  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (1997 Replacement Volume)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
14 Article - Education  
15 Section 4-201  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (1997 Replacement Volume)

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 1-101.

22 (c) "County" means a county of this State and includes Baltimore City.

23 (d) "County board" means the board of education of a county and includes the  
24 Board of School Commissioners of Baltimore City.

25 (e) "County superintendent" means the county superintendent of schools of a  
26 county and includes the Superintendent of Public Instruction for Baltimore City.

2

1 4-201.

2 (a) [ This section does not apply to Baltimore City.

3 (b) (1) The term of a county superintendent is 4 years beginning on July 1. ]

4 (1) (I) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, A  
5 COUNTY BOARD MAY APPOINT A COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT TO EITHER A 2-YEAR  
6 TERM OR A 4-YEAR TERM, BEGINNING ON JULY 1.

7 (II) A county superintendent continues to serve until a successor is  
8 appointed and qualifies.

9 (2) Except in Harford County, by February 1 of the year in which a term  
10 ends, the county superintendent shall notify the county board whether he is a candidate  
11 for reappointment.

12 (3) In the year in which a term begins, the county board shall appoint a  
13 county superintendent between February 1 and June 30. However, if the county board  
14 decides to reappoint the incumbent superintendent, the county board shall take final  
15 action at a public meeting no later than March 1 of that year.

16 (4) If a county board is unable to appoint a county superintendent by July 1  
17 of a year in which a term begins, the provisions of subsection [(d)](C) of this section apply.

18 (5) (i) This paragraph applies only to Harford County.

19 (ii) By January 1 of the year that is 2 years before the[ county  
20 superintendent's term ends,] END OF THE TERM OF A COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT  
21 WHO IS SERVING A 4-YEAR TERM, and by January 1 of the year[ that the  
22 superintendent's term ends,] THAT IS THE LAST YEAR OF THE TERM OF A COUNTY  
23 SUPERINTENDENT WHO IS SERVING EITHER A 2-YEAR OR A 4-YEAR TERM, the  
24 Harford County Board shall provide public notice in 2 newspapers of general circulation  
25 in the county that the Board will conduct an evaluation of the superintendent's  
26 professional performance.

27 (iii) By February 1 of each year specified in subparagraph (ii) of this  
28 paragraph, the Harford County Board shall:

29 1. Conduct an evaluation of the county superintendent's  
30 professional performance; and

31 2. Share the findings of the evaluation with the county  
32 superintendent.

33 (iv) 1. By December 1 of the year preceding a year in which the  
34 term ends, the county superintendent shall notify the County Board whether the  
35 superintendent is a candidate for reappointment. If the superintendent notifies the  
36 County Board that the superintendent is not a candidate for reappointment, then the  
37 remaining provisions of this paragraph shall not apply.

