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HB 903/96 - JUD

1997 Regular Session
7r0135

By: Delegates Dembrow, Genn, and Preis

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 1997

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Re-referred to: Judiciary, February 18, 1997

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 28, 1997

CHAPTER ____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Truancy - Investigation and Reporting Requirements**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring certain individuals, upon receipt of a report from certain
4 school officials that a student has been habitually truant without lawful excuse, to
5 initiate an investigation into the cause of the student's truancy; authorizing certain
6 individuals to provide certain services and to notify the Department of Juvenile
7 Justice that the student has been habitually truant; requiring certain school officials
8 to provide to a local education agency certain information on certain students
9 described as habitually truant; and generally relating to the establishment of
10 investigation and reporting requirements concerning truancy.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article - Education
13 Section 7-302 and 7-304(ⓔ) (f)(1)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (1997 Replacement Volume)

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

18 **Article - Education**

19 7-302.

20 (A) The principal or head teacher of each public or private school in this State
21 shall report immediately to the county superintendent, the supervisor of pupil personnel,
22 or any other official designated by the county superintendent the name of each child
23 enrolled in his school who has been absent or irregular in attendance, without lawful

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1 excuse, or who shows evidence of maladjustment, so that the causes may be studied and
2 solutions worked out.

3 (B) ON RECEIPT OF A REPORT FROM A PRINCIPAL OR HEAD TEACHER OF A
4 PUBLIC SCHOOL THAT A STUDENT HAS BEEN HABITUALLY TRUANT WITHOUT
5 LAWFUL EXCUSE, THE APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SCHOOL SYSTEM:

6 (1) SHALL INITIATE AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE CAUSE OF THE
7 CHILD'S TRUANCY;

8 (2) MAY PROVIDE COUNSELING REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF
9 SOCIAL, HEALTH, AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES; AND

10 (3) FOLLOWING THE INVESTIGATION OR INTERVENTION, MAY NOTIFY
11 THE DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE THAT THE STUDENT HAS BEEN
12 HABITUALLY TRUANT, WITHOUT LAWFUL EXCUSE.

13 (C) THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT, THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE, OR
14 THE SUPERVISOR OF PUPIL PERSONNEL SHALL PROVIDE TO THE LOCAL EDUCATION
15 AGENCY FOR INCLUSION IN THE REPORT OF THE LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY
16 UNDER § 7-304(E) OF THIS SUBTITLE INFORMATION REGARDING THE NUMBER OF
17 STUDENTS IDENTIFIED AS BEING HABITUALLY TRUANT.

18 7-304.

19 ~~(e)~~ (f) ~~(1)~~ At the end of each fiscal year, each participating local education
20 agency shall submit a written statement to the State Department of Education
21 [describing] THAT DESCRIBES:

22 ~~(1)~~ (I) [the] THE assessment, the educational problems determined, the
23 overall program developed with goals and procedures, and a yearly evaluation of the
24 success of the program AS PROVIDED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION; AND

25 ~~(2)~~ (II) INFORMATION REGARDING THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS
26 IDENTIFIED AS BEING HABITUALLY TRUANT AS PROVIDED UNDER THE PROVISIONS
27 OF § 7-302(C) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
29 October 1, 1997.