
By: Delegates Cadden, Perry, Morgan, Greenip, Love, and Kopp

Introduced and read first time: February 20, 1997

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Maryland Adult External High School Program - Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Department of Education to maintain the
4 funding of the Maryland Adult External High School Program at a certain level for
5 a certain time period; clarifying the establishment and requirements of, as well as
6 the recognition of the need for, the Maryland Adult External High School Program;
7 requiring the State Board of Education to evaluate the Program and submit a
8 certain report to the General Assembly before a certain date; and generally relating
9 to adult education in the State.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

11 Article - Education
12 Section 1-101(f) and (l)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (1997 Replacement Volume)

15 BY adding to

16 Article - Education
17 Section 7-205.1
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (1997 Replacement Volume)

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

22 **Article - Education**

23 1-101.

24 (f) "Department" means the State Department of Education.

25 (l) "State Board" means the State Board of Education.

26 7-205.1.

27 (A) THERE IS A MARYLAND ADULT EXTERNAL HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM
28 ESTABLISHED FOR THE CITIZENS OF MARYLAND UNDER REGULATIONS ADOPTED
29 BY THE STATE BOARD.

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1 (B) ACCORDING TO THESE REGULATIONS:

2 (1) THE STATE BOARD RECOGNIZES DEMONSTRATED COMPETENCIES
3 IN ADULTS, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THESE COMPETENCIES WERE ACQUIRED IN
4 A FORMAL SCHOOL SETTING; AND

5 (2) IN RESPONSE TO THIS RECOGNITION OF COMPETENCIES, THE
6 DEPARTMENT PROVIDES ALTERNATIVE REQUIREMENTS AND METHODS OF
7 OBTAINING A MARYLAND HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

8 (C) BECAUSE THE PROGRAM IS A VALUABLE SERVICE THAT IS PROVIDED TO
9 THE CITIZENS OF MARYLAND, AT LEAST THROUGH FISCAL YEAR 2003, FUNDING FOR
10 THE PROGRAM IN THE BUDGET OF THE DEPARTMENT SHALL BE AT A MINIMUM
11 EQUAL TO THE FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM IN THE FISCAL YEAR 1997 BUDGET.

12 (D) DURING FISCAL YEAR 2003, IN ORDER TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF
13 THE PROGRAM, THE STATE BOARD SHALL CONDUCT AN EVALUATION OF THE
14 PROGRAM.

15 (E) THE STATE BOARD SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON OR
16 BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2003, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1312 OF THE STATE
17 GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE RESULTS OF THE EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAM.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
19 July 1, 1997.