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By: Senator Stone

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 1997 Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 Baltimore County - Public Schools - Testing for Environmental Hazards

- 3 FOR the purpose of requesting the Baltimore County Board of Education to perform
- 4 annual testing for environmental hazards in public school buildings where hazards
- 5 have been found to be present; and requesting the Board to assess any danger to
- 6 health among students and staff of those schools.
- 7 WHEREAS, The Baltimore County public school system has experienced a number
- 8 of highly publicized incidents in which environmental hazards have been detected in
- 9 school buildings, resulting in the closure of schools and disruption of the educational
- 10 process; and
- 11 WHEREAS, The possibility of environmental hazards, such as asbestos fibers in the
- 12 air and lead in the water, is of utmost concern to parents, school employees, and all other
- 13 citizens of the County; and
- WHEREAS, The Baltimore County Board of Education should deal forcefully in
- 15 addressing this heightened level of concern by implementing a program of annual
- 16 inspections of affected buildings to help avoid future incidents of school closure because
- 17 of environmental hazards; and
- 18 WHEREAS, The Baltimore County Board of Education should provide an ongoing
- 19 assessment of the effect of environmental hazards on the health of students and staff at
- 20 affected schools; now, therefore, be it
- 21 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
- 22 Baltimore County Board of Education is requested to implement a program of
- 23 comprehensive annual inspections of public school buildings in which environmental
- 24 hazards have been detected; and be it further
- 25 RESOLVED, That the annual inspections should continue until the environmental
- 26 hazard has been eliminated; and be it further
- 27 RESOLVED, That the Baltimore County Board of Education is further encouraged
- 28 to assess the danger to students and school staff at affected school buildings and take
- 29 appropriate steps to eliminate any danger to health; and be it further
- 30 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
- 31 Legislative Reference to the Baltimore County Board of Education, 6901 North Charles
- 32 Street, Towson, Maryland 21204.