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By: **Chairman, Ways and Means Committee (Departmental - Education)** Introduced and read first time: January 23, 1998 Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable House action: Adopted Read second time: February 26, 1998

CHAPTER_____

1 AN ACT concerning

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State Aid for Public Education - Schools for Success - Extension of Sunset

- 3 FOR the purpose of extending the termination of certain provisions relating to
- 4 challenge grants for school improvement; and generally relating to State aid for
- 5 public education.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

- 7 Article Education
- 8 Section 5-204
- 9 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 10 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

- 12 Chapter 210 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1992, as amended by
- 13 Chapter 349 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1995
- 14 Section 2

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

- 16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 17 Article Education
- 18 5-204.
- 19 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

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1 (2) "Challenge grants" means funds distributed by the Department for 2 use in accountability of low-performing schools for school improvement based upon 3 Schools for Success goals.

4 (3) "Data-based areas" means those areas identified by the Department 5 for which information is to be tracked for each school, each school system, and the 6 State related to the 10 Schools for Success goals.

7 (4) "Maryland School Performance Program" means an outcome based
8 education accountability program that concentrates on accountability through school
9 improvement in the public schools.

10 (b) (1) There may be a School Improvement Research Project administered 11 and directed by the Department.

12 (2) A Schools for Success Fund may be established for challenge grants to 13 implement school improvement.

14 (3) The Department, with the concurrence of county boards, shall select 15 the public schools to receive challenge grants. The recipient schools shall have the 16 following characteristics, as applicable, derived from data-based information:

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(i) Low percentage of average daily attendance;

18 (ii) High percentage of dropouts;

19(iii)Low percentage of students passing the Maryland Functional20Tests on the first administration;

21 (iv) Poor performance on the criterion referenced tests; and

22 (v) Other mutually acceptable factors.

(4) Any challenge grant funds provided under this section shall be used
to effect systemic changes in the recipient schools, including interagency activities,
computer labs, salary incentive programs, staffing, total quality management, and
other purposes approved by the Department.

27 (5) Each public school that is a recipient of a challenge grant shall have
28 a school improvement team constituted according to guidelines established by the
29 Department.

30 (6) [In Fiscal Year 1993, each] EACH school improvement team shall 31 establish outcomes, measures for the outcomes, and timelines for its school to show 32 improvement in the data-based areas in accordance with guidelines established by 33 the Department. [Full implementation of changes to the instructional program shall 34 occur in Fiscal Year 1994.]

35 (7) Selection of school administrative leadership shall be a decision by 36 the local school superintendent with the concurrence of the State Superintendent.

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1 (8) Nothing in this section shall require that any particular school 2 system be required to accept a grant from or otherwise participate in the Schools for

3 Success Challenge Grant Program.

4 (c) The Department shall collect and, in accordance with § 2-1218 of the State

5 Government Article, report to the General Assembly by [October 1, 1995] JANUARY

6 15, 2002 a final accountability report on each school that receives a challenge grant,

7 with interim annual reports submitted by [December 31 of 1992, 1993, and 1994]

8 JANUARY 15 OF 1999, 2000, AND 2001 based upon progress toward outcome attainment.

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Chapter 210 of the Acts of 1992, as amended by Chapter 349 of the Acts of 1995

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take

12 effect July 1, 1992. It shall be effective for a period of [6] 9 years and, at the end of

13 June 30, [1998] 2001 with no further action required by the General Assembly, this

14 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take 16 effect June 1, 1998.