

HOUSE BILL 10

Unofficial Copy
F1

1999 Regular Session
9lr0867

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegates Kopp, Taylor, Hixson, Rawlings, Arnick, Busch, Dewberry,
Doory, Guns, Harrison, Howard, Hurson, Menes, Montague, Owings,
Rosenberg, Vallario, and Wood**

Requested: November 20, 1998

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 1999

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commission on Education Finance, Equity, and Excellence**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Commission on Education Finance, Equity, and
4 Excellence; requiring the Commission to make recommendations to ensure the
5 adequacy of funding and equity in funding for students in public schools
6 statewide, to ensure excellence in school systems and student performance, to
7 provide for a transition as current educational funding initiatives abrogate, and
8 to analyze whether the current funding procedures should be retained or certain
9 new procedures adopted; providing for the appointment of members of the
10 Commission; providing for the staffing for the Commission; requiring an interim
11 and a final report by certain dates; and generally relating to the Commission on
12 Education Finance, Equity, and Excellence.

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That:

15 (a) There is a Commission on Education Finance, Equity, and Excellence.

16 (b) The Commission shall review the current education financing formulas
17 and accountability measures and make recommendations for:

18 (1) ensuring the adequacy of funding for students in public schools
19 statewide, including early childhood education programs;

20 (2) ensuring equity in funding for students in public schools statewide;

21 (3) ensuring excellence in school systems and student performance
22 statewide;

23 (4) providing for a smooth transition as current educational funding
24 initiatives abrogate; and

25 (5) analyzing whether it is more effective to provide additional State aid
26 in the form of targeted grants or by increasing funding through the base formula.

1 (c) The Commission shall be composed of 23 members as follows:

2 (1) a chairman appointed by the Governor;

3 (2) two members of the Senate Economic and Environmental Affairs
4 Committee appointed by the President of the Senate;

5 (3) two members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
6 appointed by the President of the Senate;

7 (4) two members of the House Ways and Means Committee appointed by
8 the Speaker of the House;

9 (5) two members of the House Appropriations Committee appointed by
10 the Speaker of the House;

11 (6) the State Superintendent of Schools;

12 (7) the Secretary of Budget and Management;

13 (8) the President of the State Board of Education;

14 (9) a representative of the Maryland State Teachers Association
15 appointed by the Governor;

16 (10) a representative of the Baltimore Teachers Union appointed by the
17 Governor;

18 (11) a local board of education president appointed by the Governor;

19 (12) a school superintendent appointed by the Governor;

20 (13) a representative of the Maryland Association of Counties appointed
21 by the Governor;

22 (14) the Chancellor of the University System of Maryland;

23 (15) the president of a private college located in the State;

24 (16) two chief executive officers of companies operating in the State,
25 appointed by the Governor; and

26 (17) two chief financial officers of companies operating in the State,
27 nominated by the Maryland Business Round Table and appointed by the Governor.

28 (d) To the extent practicable, the Governor shall attempt to ensure regional,
29 ethnic, economic, and gender diversity on the Commission.

30 (e) The State Board of Education and the Department of Legislative Services
31 shall provide staff support to the Commission.

1 (f) (1) The Commission shall provide an interim report of its findings and
2 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
3 Government Article, to the General Assembly by January 1, 2000.

4 (2) The Commission shall provide a final report of its findings and
5 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
6 Government Article, to the General Assembly by October 15, 2000.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
8 effect June 1, 1999.