
By: **Delegates Howard and Rawlings**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 1999

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Odyssey of the Mind Teams - Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of funding an Odyssey of the Mind team in the State that competes
4 in certain Odyssey of the Mind tournaments; requiring an Odyssey of the Mind
5 team that is awarded a grant to use the grant for certain purposes; funding the
6 grants; and generally relating to funding Odyssey of the Mind teams in the
7 State.

8 BY adding to
9 Article - Education
10 Section 5-208.1
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1997 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

13 **Preamble**

14 WHEREAS, The Odyssey of the Mind values and nurtures creativity and
15 provides opportunities to develop creative problem solving skills that are important in
16 an ever changing world; and

17 WHEREAS, The mission of the Odyssey of the Mind includes the
18 encouragement and development of cooperation, self-respect, and the appreciation
19 and understanding of others; and

20 WHEREAS, Creativity is an important skill; and

21 WHEREAS, There is a need to focus our energies on providing activities for
22 students to develop and display what they have learned; and

23 WHEREAS, The Odyssey of the Mind appreciates diversity, interaction, and
24 cultural sensitivity; and

25 WHEREAS, Schools tend to offer students convergent problems in the
26 curricula that suggest there is both a single correct solution and a single correct
27 process for arriving at that conclusion; and

1 WHEREAS, Through the Odyssey of the Mind the normally inhibiting fear of
2 being wrong is mitigated, the pressure to be flawless is eliminated, and there is more
3 room for the naturally pleasurable aspect of learning; and

4 WHEREAS, Learning should be fun; now, therefore,

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

7 **Article - Education**

8 5-208.1.

9 (A) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE A GRANT TO AN ODYSSEY OF
10 THE MIND TEAM IN THE STATE THAT COMPETES IN THE ODYSSEY OF THE MIND
11 WORLD FINALS.

12 (2) AN ODYSSEY OF THE MIND TEAM THAT IS AWARDED A GRANT BY THE
13 DEPARTMENT SHALL USE THE GRANT TO PAY THE COSTS OF COMPETING IN THE
14 ODYSSEY OF THE MIND WORLD FINALS.

15 (B) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE
16 GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE STATE BUDGET AT LEAST \$150,000 TO PAY THE
17 COST OF STATE ODYSSEY OF THE MIND TEAMS COMPETING IN THE ODYSSEY OF THE
18 MIND WORLD FINALS.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
20 July 1, 1999.