
By: **Delegates Hubbard, Riley, Pitkin, Conroy, Hubers, Montague, Grosfeld,
Cadden, Kopp, Rosso, and ~~Flanagan~~ Flanagan, and James**

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Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

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CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education—Gifted and Talented Students Commission on Funding and**
3 **Services for Gifted and Talented Student Education in Maryland -**
4 **Establishment**

5 FOR the purpose of ~~altering a provision of law so as to require the State Board of~~
6 ~~Education to require county boards of education to develop and implement~~
7 ~~programs for gifted and talented students establishing the Commission on~~
8 ~~Funding and Services for Gifted and Talented Student Education in Maryland;~~
9 ~~providing for the membership and duties of the Commission; requiring the~~
10 ~~Commission to submit certain reports to the Governor and the General~~
11 ~~Assembly by certain dates; requiring the Commission to be appointed and meet~~
12 ~~by certain dates; requiring the Governor to use certain criteria to the extent~~
13 ~~possible in appointing members to the Commission; requiring the Department of~~
14 ~~Education to staff the Commission; providing for the termination of this Act; and~~
15 ~~generally relating to the Commission on Funding and Services for Gifted and~~
16 ~~Talented Student Education in Maryland.~~

17 ~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~
18 ~~Article—Education~~
19 ~~Section 8-203~~
20 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
21 ~~(1999 Replacement Volume)~~

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

1 ~~Article—Education~~

2 ~~8-203.~~

3 ~~The State Board shall [encourage] REQUIRE each county board to develop and~~
4 ~~implement programs for gifted and talented students.~~

5 (a) There is a Commission on Funding and Services for Gifted and Talented
6 Student Education in Maryland.

7 (b) The Commission shall consist of 23 members as follows:

8 (1) the Governor, or the Governor's designee, who shall serve as the
9 Chair of the Commission;

10 (2) a member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
11 the Senate;

12 (3) a member of the Maryland House of Delegates, appointed by the
13 Speaker of the House;

14 (4) the Secretary of Education, or the Secretary's designee;

15 (5) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the State Superintendent's
16 designee;

17 (6) a representative of the Higher Education Commission with expertise
18 in education for gifted and talented students, appointed by the Secretary of Higher
19 Education; and

20 (7) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

21 (i) a member of a local board of education;

22 (ii) a county superintendent of schools;

23 (iii) an associate superintendent of instruction and curriculum from
24 a county board of education;

25 (iv) a local gifted and talented education supervisor;

26 (v) a representative of the Maryland State Teachers Association;

27 (vi) a representative of the Baltimore City Teachers Union;

28 (vii) two representatives of the Maryland Coalition for the Gifted
29 and Talented;

30 (viii) a representative of a local gifted and talented student education
31 advocacy organization;

- 1 (ix) a representative of the Maryland State Parent-Teachers
 2 Association;
- 3 (x) a parent of a gifted and talented student with special learning
 4 needs;
- 5 (xi) a representative of the Center for Talented Youth at Johns
 6 Hopkins University;
- 7 (xii) a member with expertise in learning disabilities and other
 8 special educational needs;
- 9 (xiii) a representative of the Suburban High Tech Council;
- 10 (xiv) a representative of the Greater Baltimore High Tech Council;
- 11 (xv) a nonsenior representative of the Maryland Association of
 12 Student Councils; and
- 13 (xvi) a member of the Governor's Commission on Education Finance,
 14 Equity, and Excellence.
- 15 (c) The Commission shall review the status of funding and services for gifted
 16 and talented students in major academic areas, the arts, and leadership and make
 17 recommendations to:
- 18 (1) ensure that all local school districts have appropriate advanced
 19 learning opportunities for gifted and talented students in kindergarten through grade
 20 12;
- 21 (2) ensure that there is adequate funding for services, teacher
 22 preparation, counseling, and other support for meeting the needs of gifted and
 23 talented students;
- 24 (3) develop accountability standards for gifted and talented education
 25 services in Maryland;
- 26 (4) ensure that the identification of, and delivery of appropriate services
 27 for, traditionally under-represented groups, including but not limited to minorities,
 28 non- and limited-English proficient students, students with disabilities, and
 29 students living in poverty;
- 30 (5) ensure appropriate services for gifted and talented students with
 31 special learning problems, including but not limited to learning disabilities, limited
 32 English proficiency, emotional disabilities, and attention deficit disorder; and
- 33 (6) eliminate administrative obstacles to appropriate services, including
 34 obstacles prohibiting dual concurrent enrollment options in middle and high schools,
 35 and high schools and colleges, the lack of information about services, the lack of

1 access, including transportation, to services, and the inability of schools to report
2 information and test scores to families.

3 (d) The Commission shall be appointed by August 1, 2000 and begin meeting
4 by September 1, 2000.

5 (e) In appointing members of the Commission, the Governor shall ensure
6 regional, ethnic, economic, and gender diversity to the extent possible.

7 (f) The Department of Education shall provide staff support for the
8 Commission.

9 (g) (1) On or before January 1, 2001, the Commission shall provide an
10 interim report to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government
11 Article, the General Assembly.

12 (2) On or before November 1, 2001, the Commission shall provide a final
13 report containing the findings and recommendations of the Commission to the
14 Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General
15 Assembly.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 ~~October~~ June 1, 2000. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 7 months
18 and, at the end of December 31, 2001, with no further action required by the General
19 Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.