

HOUSE BILL 57

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HB 514/00 - APP

2001 Regular Session
1r0856

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate Zirkin**
Requested: November 14, 2000
Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2001
Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore County - Education - Wireless Communications Technology -**
3 **Pilot Program**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a pilot program to implement wireless
5 communications technology in Baltimore County public schools; stating the
6 purpose of the pilot program; requiring the Baltimore County Board of
7 Education to develop and submit a certain plan to the State Superintendent of
8 Schools for approval; requiring the State Superintendent to select a plan for
9 approval based on certain criteria; requiring the State Superintendent to award
10 a certain grant under certain circumstances; requiring the Governor to include
11 certain funds in the State budget for a certain purpose; requiring the county
12 board to submit a certain report; and generally relating to a pilot program to
13 implement wireless communications technology in Baltimore County public
14 schools.

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article - Education
17 Section 7-904 and 7-905
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

20 BY adding to
21 Article - Education
22 Section 7-907.1
23 Annotated Code of Maryland
24 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

1 **Article - Education**

2 7-904.

3 (A) The State Superintendent may:

4 (1) Support development of curriculum-based learning resources using
5 state-of-the-art technologies and techniques designed to increase the achievement
6 levels of all students in all subject areas;

7 (2) Support development of long-term comprehensive instructional
8 programming and associated support resources that ensure maximum access by all
9 educational institutions; and

10 (3) Award grants to eligible private or public consortia to enable eligible
11 consortia to develop state-of-the-art technology-enhanced instructional systems for
12 use in the classroom, including:

13 (i) The development, production, and distribution of instructional
14 programming for students;

15 (ii) Staff development programming for teachers; and

16 (iii) Incorporation of creative state-of-the-art applications of
17 technology-enhanced learning resources, such as:

18 1. Computer software;

19 2. Databases;

20 3. Films;

21 4. Transparencies;

22 5. Multimedia video and audio discs;

23 6. Telecommunications;

24 7. Educational television; and

25 8. Print resources.

26 (B) THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT SHALL SUPPORT AND AWARD A GRANT FOR
27 THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PILOT PROGRAM TO IMPLEMENT WIRELESS
28 COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY UNDER § 7-907.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

29 7-905.

30 In awarding grants under [§ 7-904] § 7-904(A) of this subtitle, the State
31 Superintendent shall give priority to applications describing programs or systems
32 that are developed:

- 1 (1) For statewide application at a reasonable cost;
- 2 (2) In consultation with classroom teachers; and
- 3 (3) Through consultation and collaboration with appropriate educational
4 entities to ensure relevance to State curriculum frameworks.

5 7-907.1.

6 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "COUNTY BOARD" MEANS THE BALTIMORE COUNTY
7 BOARD OF EDUCATION.

8 (B) THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNTY
9 BOARD, SHALL ESTABLISH A PILOT PROGRAM TO IMPLEMENT WIRELESS
10 COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY IN ALL BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

11 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IS TO:

12 (1) PROVIDE A USEFUL EDUCATIONAL MEDIUM FOR ALL STUDENTS IN
13 THE COUNTY;

14 (2) DEVELOP STUDENT FAMILIARITY WITH THE USES AND ADVANTAGES
15 OF WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS; AND

16 (3) PROMOTE THE MORE EFFICIENT USE OF FACULTY TIME.

17 (D) (1) THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT SHALL IMPLEMENT THE PILOT
18 PROGRAM AS PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION.

19 (2) THE COUNTY BOARD, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE
20 SUPERINTENDENT, SHALL DEVELOP A PLAN TO IMPLEMENT WIRELESS
21 COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY IN ALL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

22 (3) THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL SUBMIT THE PLAN TO THE STATE
23 SUPERINTENDENT FOR APPROVAL.

24 (4) IN SELECTING A PLAN FOR APPROVAL, THE STATE
25 SUPERINTENDENT SHALL GIVE PRIORITY TO PLANS THAT:

26 (I) PROVIDE A USEFUL EDUCATIONAL MEDIUM FOR STUDENTS IN
27 THE COUNTY;

28 (II) INCLUDE REASONABLE COSTS;

29 (III) ENCOURAGE AND DEVELOP STUDENT FAMILIARITY WITH THE
30 USES AND ADVANTAGES OF WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS; AND

31 (IV) PROMOTE THE MORE EFFICIENT USE OF FACULTY TIME.

32 (5) ON APPROVAL, THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT SHALL AWARD A
33 GRANT TO THE COUNTY BOARD TO IMPLEMENT THE PILOT PROGRAM.

1 (E) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002 AND EACH SUCCEEDING FISCAL YEAR, THE
2 GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE STATE BUDGET FUNDS FOR THE STATE
3 SUPERINTENDENT TO AWARD A GRANT TO THE COUNTY BOARD TO ACCOMPLISH
4 THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

5 (F) THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL ISSUE A REPORT ON THE STATUS OF, AND THE
6 BENEFITS ACCRUED FROM, THE PILOT PROGRAM TO THE GOVERNOR AND, UNDER §
7 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2 YEARS
8 AFTER THE DATE THAT THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT AWARDS A GRANT TO THE
9 COUNTY BOARD UNDER THIS SECTION.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
11 July 1, 2001.