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By: **Delegate Boschert**  
Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2001  
Assigned to: Ways and Means

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2                                   **Education Programs - State Reading Advisory Council on Learning-Related**  
3                                   **Vision Problems**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a State Reading Advisory Council on  
5 Learning-Related Vision Problems; specifying the purpose and membership of  
6 the Advisory Council; requiring the Advisory Council to issue certain reports on  
7 or before certain dates; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally  
8 relating to a State Reading Advisory Council on Learning-Related Vision  
9 Problems.

10 BY adding to  
11 Article - Education  
12 Section 7-201.1  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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 7-201.1.

19 (A) THERE IS A STATE READING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON LEARNING-RELATED  
20 VISION PROBLEMS.

21 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL IS TO:

22 (1) STUDY AND REPORT ON STATEWIDE AND NATIONAL EFFORTS TO  
23 ADDRESS LEARNING-RELATED VISION PROBLEMS; AND

24 (2) PROVIDE ADVICE AND RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT TO  
25 LEARNING-RELATED VISION PROBLEMS, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS.

26 (C) THE ADVISORY COUNCIL SHALL CONSIST OF 10 MEMBERS AS FOLLOWS:

1 (1) ONE SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND AND  
2 SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

3 (2) ONE SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES AND  
4 SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE; AND

5 (3) EIGHT SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AS FOLLOWS:

6 (I) ONE SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE  
7 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION;

8 (II) ONE SHALL BE AN OPTOMETRIST LICENSED TO PRACTICE  
9 OPTOMETRY IN THE STATE AND SHALL BE NOMINATED BY THE MARYLAND  
10 OPTOMETRIC ASSOCIATION;

11 (III) ONE SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND  
12 CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS, INCORPORATED, ALSO KNOWN AS THE  
13 MARYLAND PTA, AND SHALL BE NOMINATED BY THE MARYLAND PTA;

14 (IV) ONE SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE PARENTS  
15 ACTIVE FOR VISION EDUCATION (PAVE) AND SHALL BE NOMINATED BY PAVE;

16 (V) ONE SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE COLLEGE OF  
17 OPTOMETRISTS IN VISION DEVELOPMENT (COVD) AND SHALL BE NOMINATED FIRST  
18 BY THE COVD AND THEN BY THE MARYLAND OPTOMETRIC ASSOCIATION;

19 (VI) ONE SHALL BE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE AMERICAN  
20 FOUNDATION FOR VISION AWARENESS (AFVA) AND SHALL BE NOMINATED BY THE  
21 AFVA;

22 (VII) ONE SHALL BE A CURRENT OR RETIRED SPECIAL EDUCATION  
23 TEACHER HAVING SERVICE IN SUCH CAPACITY FOR A MINIMUM OF 10 YEARS IN THE  
24 PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE STATE AND SHALL BE NOMINATED BY THE READING  
25 TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND; AND

26 (VIII) ONE SHALL BE A CITIZEN OF THE STATE.

27 (D) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 2002, THE ADVISORY COUNCIL SHALL  
28 ISSUE AN INTERIM REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH §  
29 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THAT INCLUDES INFORMATION ON  
30 STATEWIDE AND NATIONAL EFFORTS TO ADDRESS LEARNING-RELATED VISION  
31 PROBLEMS.

32 (E) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 2003, THE ADVISORY COUNCIL SHALL  
33 ISSUE A FINAL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246  
34 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THAT INCLUDES RECOMMENDATIONS ON  
35 LEARNING-RELATED VISION PROBLEMS, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS.

36 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
37 October 1, 2001. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of

- 1 September 30, 2003, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
- 2 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.