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By: **Delegates Heller, Proctor, and Edwards** Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2001

Assigned to: Appropriations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

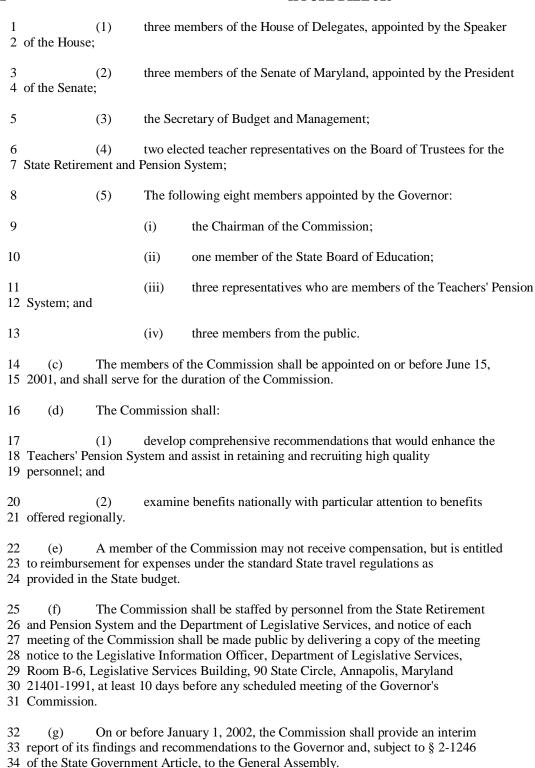
1	AN	ACT	concerning
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- 2 Governor's Commission to Study Pension Benefit Enhancements to the 3 Teachers' Pension System
- 4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Governor's Commission to Study Pension Benefit
- 5 Enhancements to the Teachers' Pension System; providing for the membership,
- 6 chairman, duties, and staffing of the Commission; requiring the Commission to
- 7 report to the Governor and the General Assembly on its findings; and generally
- 8 relating to the establishment of a Governor's Commission to Study Pension
- 9 Benefit Enhancements to the Teachers' Pension System.

10 Preamble

- 11 WHEREAS, There is a nationwide teacher shortage and a teacher shortage in
- 12 Maryland caused in large measure by the inability to retain and recruit qualified
- 13 teachers; and
- WHEREAS, The inability to retain and recruit qualified teachers is due in part
- 15 to the lack of competitive pension benefits in Maryland; and
- WHEREAS, Maryland's current pension benefits rank 46th in the nation; and
- WHEREAS, Maryland's current pension benefits are the lowest in the region;
- 18 and
- 19 WHEREAS, Over 29,000 teachers will be eligible for retirement in 2002; now,
- 20 therefore,
- 21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
- 22 MARYLAND, That:
- 23 (a) There is a Governor's Commission to Study Pension Benefit
- 24 Enhancements for the Teachers' Pension System for the purpose of retaining and
- 25 recruiting qualified personnel.
- 26 (b) The Commission shall consist of the following 17 members:

## **HOUSE BILL 325**



- 1 (h) On or before December 1, 2002, the Commission shall provide a final 2 report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, subject to  $\S$  2-1246
- 3 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly.
- 4 (i) The Commission shall terminate on December 31, 2002.
- 5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 6 June 1, 2001.