
By: **Delegates Gordon, Carlson, Heller, Bozman, Dembrow, Rudolph,
Patterson, Conroy, Stocksdale, McKee, Pitkin, Rosso, C. Davis, and
Bohanan**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2001
Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Admission of Students to Kindergarten - Age Requirements**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing certain age requirements for admission to a
4 kindergarten program in a public school in the State; establishing certain grants
5 to hold county boards of education harmless for certain funding reductions; and
6 generally relating to the age requirement for the admission of a student to
7 kindergarten.

8 BY adding to
9 Article - Education
10 Section 5-202(c)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article - Education
15 Section 7-101(a)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

20 **Article - Education**

21 5-202.

22 (C) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003 AND FOR EACH OF FISCAL YEARS 2004 THROUGH
23 2015, EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL RECEIVE A HOLD HARMLESS GRANT TO OFFSET
24 THE DECREASE IN THE STATE SHARE OF BASIC CURRENT EXPENSES RESULTING
25 FROM THE DECLINE IN STUDENT ENROLLMENT DUE TO THE ALTERED

1 KINDERGARTEN AGE REQUIREMENT UNDER § 7-101(A)(2) OF THIS ARTICLE IN THE
2 FOLLOWING AMOUNTS:

3 (1) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003, IN ALL COUNTIES EXCEPT GARRETT COUNTY,
4 THE AMOUNT SHALL EQUAL THE PRODUCT OF MULTIPLYING:

5 (I) ONE-HALF THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PUBLIC
6 SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS IN THE COUNTY ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2000, MINUS
7 ONE-HALF THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PUBLIC SCHOOL
8 KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS IN THE COUNTY ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2001; AND

9 (II) THE FRACTION:

10 1. THE NUMERATOR OF WHICH IS THE STATE SHARE OF
11 BASIC CURRENT EXPENSES FOR THE COUNTY; AND

12 2. THE DENOMINATOR OF WHICH IS THE FULL-TIME
13 EQUIVALENT ENROLLMENT IN THE COUNTY;

14 (2) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003, IN GARRETT COUNTY, THE AMOUNT SHALL
15 EQUAL THE PRODUCT OF MULTIPLYING:

16 (I) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PUBLIC SCHOOL
17 KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS IN GARRETT COUNTY ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2000, MINUS
18 THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PUBLIC SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN
19 PROGRAMS IN GARRETT COUNTY ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2001; AND

20 (II) THE FRACTION:

21 1. THE NUMERATOR OF WHICH IS THE STATE SHARE OF
22 BASIC CURRENT EXPENSES FOR GARRETT COUNTY; AND

23 2. THE DENOMINATOR OF WHICH IS THE FULL-TIME
24 EQUIVALENT ENROLLMENT IN GARRETT COUNTY; AND

25 (3) FOR EACH OF FISCAL YEARS 2004 THROUGH 2015, IN ALL COUNTIES,
26 THE AMOUNT SHALL EQUAL THE PRODUCT OF MULTIPLYING:

27 (I) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PUBLIC SCHOOL
28 KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS IN THE COUNTY ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2000, MINUS THE
29 NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PUBLIC SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS
30 IN THE COUNTY ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2001; AND

31 (II) THE FRACTION:

32 1. THE NUMERATOR OF WHICH IS THE STATE SHARE OF
33 BASIC CURRENT EXPENSES FOR THE COUNTY; AND

34 2. THE DENOMINATOR OF WHICH IS THE FULL-TIME
35 EQUIVALENT ENROLLMENT IN THE COUNTY.

1 7-101.

2 (a) (1) All individuals who are 5 years old or older and under 21 YEARS OF
3 AGE shall be admitted free of charge to the public schools of this State.

4 (2) TO BE ADMITTED TO A KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM IN A PUBLIC
5 SCHOOL, AN INDIVIDUAL MUST BE AT LEAST 5 YEARS OF AGE ON OR BEFORE:

6 (I) NOVEMBER 30, IF THE INDIVIDUAL ENROLLS IN THE PROGRAM
7 IN THE YEAR 2001;

8 (II) OCTOBER 31, IF THE INDIVIDUAL ENROLLS IN THE PROGRAM IN
9 THE YEAR 2002;

10 (III) SEPTEMBER 30, IF THE INDIVIDUAL ENROLLS IN THE PROGRAM
11 IN THE YEAR 2003; OR

12 (IV) THE FIRST DAY OF THE SCHOOL YEAR IN WHICH THE
13 INDIVIDUAL ENROLLS, IF THE INDIVIDUAL ENROLLS IN THE YEAR 2004 OR ANY YEAR
14 THEREAFTER.

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