

SENATE BILL 266

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2002 Regular Session
2lr1733

By: **Senators Hogan and Bromwell**
Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2002
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Maryland School for the Blind - Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the formula that is used to calculate State funding for the
4 Maryland School for the Blind; and generally relating to the formula for
5 calculating the amount of State aid for the Maryland School for the Blind.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
7 Article - Education
8 Section 8-309
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2001 Replacement Volume)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article - Education
13 Section 8-317
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2001 Replacement Volume)

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

18 **Article - Education**

19 8-309.

20 Teachers and any other professional personnel at the Maryland School for the
21 Blind shall be paid an annual salary that is at least equal to the salary received by
22 public school teachers and professional personnel of similar training and experience
23 in the county in which the school is located.

24 8-317.

25 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

26 (2) "4-year average annual full-time equivalent enrollment" means:

1 (i) The average number of students enrolled annually in grades
2 prekindergarten through grade 12 at the Maryland School for the Blind during 4
3 consecutive school years as determined by dividing the aggregate monthly enrollment
4 during the 4-year period by the number of months school is in session during the
5 4-year period; [and]

6 (ii) One-half the average number of children served annually by
7 the Maryland School for the Blind's Early Intervention Program during 4 consecutive
8 school years as determined by dividing the program's aggregate monthly enrollment
9 during the 4-year period by the number of months school is in session during the
10 4-year period; AND

11 (III) ONE-QUARTER THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF STUDENTS SERVED
12 ANNUALLY BY THE MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND'S OUTREACH PROGRAM.

13 (3) "Growth in the per pupil basic current expense figure" means the
14 change in the per pupil basic current expense figure from the prior fiscal year to the
15 current fiscal year divided by the per pupil basic current expense figure from the
16 prior fiscal year.

17 (4) "Per pupil basic current expense figure" means the figure calculated
18 for each fiscal year by the Department in accordance with § 5-202 of this article.

19 (5) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, "prior year
20 appropriation" means the State appropriation to the Maryland School for the Blind in
21 the prior fiscal year less any funding provided under § 8-315 of this subtitle in the
22 prior fiscal year.

23 (6) "Weighted enrollment growth" means the product of 0.2 times the
24 change in the 4-year average annual full-time equivalent enrollment from the 3rd
25 through the 6th prior school years to the 2nd through the 5th prior school years
26 divided by the 4-year average annual full-time equivalent enrollment from the 3rd
27 through the 6th prior school years.

28 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, the Maryland School
29 for the Blind shall receive an appropriation equal to or greater than the sum of:

30 (1) 75% of the prior year appropriation multiplied by the product of:

31 (i) The sum of the weighted enrollment growth plus one; and

32 (ii) The sum of the growth in the per pupil basic current expense
33 figure plus one; [and]

34 (2) 25% of the prior year appropriation multiplied by the sum of the
35 weighted enrollment growth plus one; AND

36 (3) THE INCREASE IN PERSONNEL COSTS FOR TEACHERS AND
37 PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL PAID UNDER THE BALTIMORE COUNTY SALARY SCALE
38 FROM THE FIRST TO THE SECOND PRIOR YEARS.

1 (c) The "prior year appropriation" used to calculate the fiscal year 2000
2 appropriation to the Maryland School for the Blind shall be \$11,585,436.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 2002.