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By: **Allegany County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2003

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Allegany County - Education - Transportation of Students**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing the limitations on the transportation of certain  
4 students by school bus in Allegany County; and generally relating to the  
5 transportation of students in Allegany County.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article - Education  
8 Section 7-801  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

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

13 **Article - Education**

14 7-801.

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

16 (2) "Nonpublic school" means an elementary or secondary school in  
17 Calvert County that does not receive State aid.

18 (3) "Public school bus" includes any other conveyance used to transport  
19 students to a public school.

20 (b) (1) At its own expense, a county governing body may provide  
21 transportation for public school students in addition to the transportation provided by  
22 the State.

23 (2) In Montgomery County, a fee may not be charged for transporting  
24 public school students to school from their designated bus stop locations or from  
25 school to their designated bus stop locations.

1 (c) [(1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and subject to federal  
2 law, in Allegany County, school buses may not be used to transport students to or from  
3 school for longer than 1 hour or over a distance of more than 45 miles, whichever  
4 takes a shorter period of time.

5 (2) In Allegany County, school buses may be used to transport students  
6 to or from school for longer than 1 hour or over a distance of more than 45 miles if the  
7 student participates in:

8 (i) Career and technology education programs;

9 (ii) Education of handicapped children programs under the federal  
10 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; or

11 (iii) Education of the blind and deaf programs.

12 (d)] (1) Subject to the requirements of paragraph (2) of this subsection, in  
13 Calvert County the County Board may provide transportation to and from school on a  
14 public school bus for a student who attends a nonpublic school.

15 (2) Transportation offered by the Calvert County Board under this  
16 section shall be offered to a student attending a nonpublic school:

17 (i) If there is sufficient capacity on the school bus;

18 (ii) If the student resides on, along, or near a public highway in the  
19 county on which a public school bus or conveyance operates;

20 (iii) If the student resides in the public school transportation district  
21 served by the public school bus;

22 (iv) Only on the routes, school days, and hours of transportation  
23 that coincide with the routes, school days, and hours of transportation for students  
24 attending public schools in the county; and

25 (v) In the case of a student who attends a nonpublic school that is  
26 not on the public school bus route, only to the public school on the route which is  
27 nearest to the nonpublic school.

28 (3) The Calvert County Board is not responsible for the safety of any  
29 nonpublic school student who is transported on a public school bus under this  
30 subsection after the student is discharged from the public school bus, and the Board  
31 may not be held liable in any civil action arising from an act or omission that occurs  
32 after the student is discharged from the public school bus.

33 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take  
34 effect July 1, 2003.