

HOUSE BILL 648

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2003 Regular Session
3r2318
CF 3r1004

By: **Delegates Hixson, Cadden, and Kaiser**
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2003
Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Adult Education and Literacy Services - State Appropriation**

3 FOR the purpose of providing for a certain annual State appropriation for certain
4 adult education and literacy services; requiring the Department of Education to
5 submit a certain report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before
6 a certain date assessing the effectiveness of a certain method for calculating a
7 certain appropriation; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the
8 State appropriation for adult education and literacy services.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Education
11 Section 5-218
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

14 **Preamble**

15 WHEREAS, The economy of Maryland needs an educated workforce to be
16 competitive; and

17 WHEREAS, An estimated 613,640 Maryland adults do not have a high school
18 diploma; and

19 WHEREAS, High school dropouts who earn a high school diploma can earn an
20 extra \$7,000 in annual income; and

21 WHEREAS, The literacy level of a parent is the best predictor of a child's
22 literacy achievement; and

23 WHEREAS, The National Adult Literacy Survey reports that 20% of
24 Marylanders function at the lowest literacy level; and

25 WHEREAS, Maryland provides adult education and literacy services to only 4%
26 of the target population; and

1 WHEREAS, Each year, over 16,000 Maryland adults apply to take the GED test
2 and 45% fail the test due to lack of preparation; and

3 WHEREAS, Over 88,000 foreign-born residents who "do not speak English
4 well" or "at all" entered the State since the last census was taken; and

5 WHEREAS, Over 2,000 adults are on waiting lists for English as a second
6 language instruction; and

7 WHEREAS, The task force appointed by the General Assembly in 2001 studied
8 adult education-related services, outcomes, workforce connections, and funding;

9 WHEREAS, The task force recommended increasing the State investment in
10 adult education services; now, therefore,

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 5-218.

15 (a) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
16 INDICATED.

17 (2) "ASSETS" MEANS THE SUM OF THE FEDERAL AND LOCAL FUNDING
18 FOR THE STATE ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY PROGRAM.

19 (3) "COST OF INSTRUCTION" MEANS THE EXPENDITURES NECESSARY
20 FOR PROVIDING AN INDIVIDUAL WITH LITERACY INSTRUCTION FOR A FISCAL YEAR
21 AND IS CALCULATED BY MULTIPLYING THE COST PER CONTACT HOUR BY 100, WHICH
22 IS THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS REQUIRED TO MAKE
23 SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN LITERACY SKILLS DURING A SEMESTER.

24 (4) "COST PER CONTACT HOUR" MEANS THE COST OF 1 HOUR OF ADULT
25 EDUCATION AND LITERACY INSTRUCTION TO AN INDIVIDUAL STUDENT DURING THE
26 PREVIOUS FISCAL YEAR.

27 (5) "DEMAND" MEANS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS
28 REQUESTING LITERACY SERVICES IN THE STATE AND IS CALCULATED AS THE SUM
29 OF:

30 (I) THE NUMBER OF ADULTS ENROLLED IN THE FEDERAL AND
31 STATE ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM ADMINISTERED THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT
32 DURING THE PRECEDING FISCAL YEAR AS DOCUMENTED BY THE LITERACY WORKS
33 INFORMATION SYSTEM;

34 (II) THE NUMBER OF ADULTS REPORTED ON THE WAITING LIST
35 FOR INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES IN THE FEDERAL AND STATE ADULT EDUCATION
36 PROGRAM DURING THE PRECEDING FISCAL YEARS; AND

1 (III) THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO APPLIED TO TAKE THE
2 GED TEST DURING THE PRECEDING FISCAL YEAR AS DOCUMENTED BY THE
3 DEPARTMENT'S GED TESTING OFFICE.

4 (6) "STATE SHARE" MEANS THE AMOUNT OF STATE FUNDING FOR
5 ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY PROGRAMS AND IS CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

6 (I) MULTIPLY THE NUMBER OF ADULTS ENROLLED IN THE
7 FEDERAL AND STATE ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM AND THE COST OF INSTRUCTION;
8 AND

9 (II) FROM THE PRODUCT IN ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH
10 SUBTRACT ASSETS.

11 (B) (1) The Department shall distribute competitive grants for adult
12 education services in accordance with the State Plan for Adult Education and Family
13 Literacy.

14 (2) The grants distributed under this section shall be based on need and
15 performance.

16 (3) Grants under this section may be used for adult education and
17 literacy services, including:

18 (i) GED instruction;

19 (ii) The Maryland Adult External High School Program under §
20 7-205.1 of this article;

21 (iii) English for Speakers of Other Languages;

22 (iv) Family literacy; and

23 (v) Basic skills and literacy instruction.

24 [(b) Funding for the competitive grants under this section shall be as provided
25 in the State budget.]

26 (C) THE ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES NECESSARY TO FUND THE
27 DEMAND FOR ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY IN THE STATE IS THE AMOUNT
28 CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

29 (1) MULTIPLY DEMAND BY THE COST OF INSTRUCTION;

30 (2) FROM THE PRODUCT IN ITEM (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SUBTRACT
31 THE SUM OF ASSETS AND STATE SHARE.

32 (D) (1) THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE AN APPROPRIATION IN THE STATE
33 BUDGET EACH YEAR FOR THE STATE SHARE OF ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY
34 WHICH SHALL BE CALCULATED AS INDICATED IN THIS SUBSECTION.

1 (2) FOR FISCAL YEARS 2006 THROUGH 2010, THE STATE SHARE SHALL BE
2 THE PRODUCT OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2003 APPROPRIATION AND:

3 (I) 0.11 IN FISCAL YEAR 2006;

4 (II) 0.15 IN FISCAL YEAR 2007;

5 (III) 0.20 IN FISCAL YEAR 2008;

6 (IV) 0.33 IN FISCAL YEAR 2009; AND

7 (V) 0.40 IN FISCAL YEAR 2010.

8 (E) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND GENERAL
9 ASSEMBLY ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 2009, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF
10 THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ASSESSING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE
11 METHOD FOR CALCULATING THE STATE APPROPRIATION FOR ADULT EDUCATION
12 AND LITERACY SERVICES UNDER THIS SECTION.

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