
By: **Chairman, Ways and Means Committee (By Request - Departmental - Education)**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2004

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Disabled Student Transportation Grant**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the fiscal year used in the calculation for a certain grant
4 for student transportation; and generally relating to education and the funding
5 for disabled student transportation.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article - Education
8 Section 5-205
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2003 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 5-205.

15 (a) The State shall distribute grants as provided under this section to the
16 county boards to provide transportation services for public school students and
17 disabled children for whom transportation is to be provided under § 8-410 of this
18 article. Appropriations for student transportation shall be budgeted in a separate
19 budget category as provided in § 5-101 of this article. If the amount that is
20 appropriated to a county under this section in a fiscal year is more than the actual
21 cost of providing student transportation services in that county, a county board may
22 apply any excess funds to costs of pupil transportation in subsequent years. None of
23 these funds may be paid to or claimed by any subdivision, nor may any of these funds
24 be reverted to any subdivision. A county board may not transfer State revenues from
25 the student transportation category to any other category as a result of this section.

26 (b) For the purpose of calculating the 2004 base grants for student
27 transportation to county boards, the following amounts shall be used as the fiscal
28 year 2003 base grant amounts:

1	(1)	Allegany	.....	\$2,838,327
2	(2)	Anne Arundel	.....	\$12,716,216
3	(3)	Baltimore City	.....	\$10,303,967
4	(4)	Baltimore	.....	\$15,715,504
5	(5)	Calvert	.....	\$3,294,141
6	(6)	Caroline	.....	\$1,580,176
7	(7)	Carroll	.....	\$5,738,454
8	(8)	Cecil	.....	\$2,997,774
9	(9)	Charles	.....	\$5,813,595
10	(10)	Dorchester	.....	\$1,465,299
11	(11)	Frederick	.....	\$6,620,447
12	(12)	Garrett	.....	\$1,886,605
13	(13)	Harford	.....	\$7,277,627
14	(14)	Howard	.....	\$8,460,292
15	(15)	Kent	.....	\$985,359
16	(16)	Montgomery	.....	\$18,663,456
17	(17)	Prince George's	.....	\$21,018,217
18	(18)	Queen Anne's	.....	\$1,952,856
19	(19)	St. Mary's	.....	\$3,673,545
20	(20)	Somerset	.....	\$1,143,107
21	(21)	Talbot	.....	\$981,334
22	(22)	Washington	.....	\$3,784,100
23	(23)	Wicomico	.....	\$3,001,531
24	(24)	Worcester	.....	\$1,856,978

25 (c) (1) In this subsection, "full-time equivalent enrollment" has the
26 meaning stated in § 5-202 of this subtitle.

1 (2) Subject to the limitations under paragraph (3) of this subsection, for
2 fiscal year 2004 and every year thereafter the amount of a county's base grant for
3 student transportation shall be equal to the amount of the county's base grant for
4 student transportation for the previous year increased by the same percentage as the
5 increase in the private transportation category of the Consumer Price Index for all
6 urban consumers, for the Washington-Baltimore metropolitan area, as of July of the
7 fiscal year preceding the year for which the amount is being calculated, plus an
8 additional amount equal to the product of:

9 (i) The total amount of funds distributed by the State as base
10 grants for student transportation for the previous fiscal year divided by the statewide
11 full-time equivalent enrollment for the previous fiscal year; and

12 (ii) The difference between the full-time equivalent enrollment in a
13 county for the current fiscal year and the full-time equivalent enrollment in the
14 county for the previous fiscal year, or, if the full-time equivalent enrollment in a
15 county for the current fiscal year is less than the full-time equivalent enrollment in
16 the county for the previous fiscal year, zero.

17 (3) The increase in the amount of a base grant for student transportation
18 that is based on the increase in the private transportation category of the Consumer
19 Price Index may not be less than 3 percent nor more than 8 percent of the amount of
20 the grant for the previous year.

21 (d) For each fiscal year, in addition to the base grant for student
22 transportation provided under subsection (c) of this section, a disabled student
23 transportation grant shall be distributed to each county board. The amount of the
24 grant to each board shall be equal to the product of the number of disabled students
25 requiring special transportation services who are transported by the county board in
26 the [second prior] PREVIOUS fiscal year and:

27 (1) \$600 in fiscal year 2004;

28 (2) \$700 in fiscal year 2005;

29 (3) \$800 in fiscal year 2006;

30 (4) \$900 in fiscal year 2007; and

31 (5) \$1,000 in fiscal year 2008 and each fiscal year thereafter.

32 (e) For the purposes of determining the amount of the grant provided under
33 subsection (d) of this section, the State Board shall develop a procedure and adopt
34 regulations for determining the number of disabled students transported in each
35 jurisdiction in the [second prior] PREVIOUS fiscal year.

36 (f) The State Board shall adopt rules and regulations that provide for the safe
37 operation of the student transportation system of each county board of education.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
2 effect July 1, 2004.