

HOUSE BILL 901

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2004 Regular Session
4r2231
CF 4lr2781

By: **Delegates Hixson, Barkley, Bronrott, Conway, Cryor, Dumais, Feldman,
Frush, Goldwater, Gordon, Heller, King, Lee, Love, Madaleno, Mandel,
McIntosh, Menes, Murray, Pendergrass, Quinter, Rosenberg, and Stern**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2004

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education - Geographic Cost of Education Index - Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that the foundation program of the Bridge to Excellence
4 in Public Schools Act be adjusted in a certain manner to reflect regional
5 differences in the cost of education in accordance with a certain index for certain
6 fiscal years; repealing an obsolete provision of law; and generally relating to the
7 funding of a geographic cost of education index in the Bridge to Excellence in
8 Public Schools Act.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Education
11 Section 5-202(f)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Education**

17 5-202.

18 (f) (1) For fiscal year 2004, the State share of the foundation program shall
19 be adjusted to reflect regional differences in the cost of education that are due to
20 factors outside the control of local jurisdictions, by increasing the State share of the
21 foundation program otherwise determined for the following counties by:

- 22 (i) 1% for Anne Arundel County;
- 23 (ii) 3% for Baltimore City;
- 24 (iii) 3% for Howard County; and
- 25 (iv) 4% for Montgomery County.

1 (2) For fiscal year 2005 and each fiscal year thereafter, [the State share
2 of] the foundation program shall be adjusted to reflect regional differences in the cost
3 of education that are due to factors outside the control of local jurisdictions, BY
4 INCREASING THE FOUNDATION PROGRAM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GEOGRAPHIC
5 COST OF EDUCATION INDEX.

6 [(3) The Department shall contract with a private entity to conduct a
7 study to:

8 (i) Develop a Maryland specific geographic cost of education index
9 to be implemented no later than fiscal year 2005; and

10 (ii) Provide recommendations as to how the index should be used to
11 adjust State education funding.]

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