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By: **Delegates Hixson, Frush, Gaines, Healey, Howard, Hubbard, Marriott,  
Menes, Parker, Patterson, Ramirez, and Ross**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2006

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State to provide certain grants to certain county  
4 boards of education to reflect regional differences in the cost of education that  
5 are due to factors outside the control of local jurisdictions; providing for the  
6 manner of calculation and distribution of certain grants in certain fiscal years;  
7 and generally relating to the funding of a geographic cost of education index in  
8 the Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article - Education  
11 Section 5-202(f)  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 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) In this subsection, "GCEI adjustment" means the foundation  
19 program for each county multiplied by:

- 20 (i) 0.000 in Allegany;
- 21 (ii) 0.018 in Anne Arundel;
- 22 (iii) 0.042 in Baltimore City;
- 23 (iv) 0.008 in Baltimore;
- 24 (v) 0.021 in Calvert;

- 1 (vi) 0.000 in Caroline;
- 2 (vii) 0.014 in Carroll;
- 3 (viii) 0.000 in Cecil;
- 4 (ix) 0.020 in Charles;
- 5 (x) 0.000 in Dorchester;
- 6 (xi) 0.024 in Frederick;
- 7 (xii) 0.000 in Garrett;
- 8 (xiii) 0.000 in Harford;
- 9 (xiv) 0.015 in Howard;
- 10 (xv) 0.010 in Kent;
- 11 (xvi) 0.034 in Montgomery;
- 12 (xvii) 0.048 in Prince George's;
- 13 (xviii) 0.011 in Queen Anne's;
- 14 (xix) 0.002 in St. Mary's;
- 15 (xx) 0.000 in Somerset;
- 16 (xxi) 0.000 in Talbot;
- 17 (xxii) 0.000 in Washington;
- 18 (xxiii) 0.000 in Wicomico; and
- 19 (xxiv) 0.000 in Worcester.

20 (2) [To the extent funds are provided in the State budget for the grants  
21 under this subsection,] EACH YEAR, in addition to the State share of the foundation  
22 program, each county board [may] SHALL receive a grant to reflect regional  
23 differences in the cost of education that are due to factors outside of the control of the  
24 local jurisdiction.

25 (3) [Subject to paragraph (4) of this subsection, the] THE amount of the  
26 grant to each county board under this subsection shall equal the GCEI adjustment for  
27 the county board multiplied times:

- 28 (i) 0.50 in fiscal year [2006] 2007;
- 29 (ii) 0.62 in fiscal year [2007] 2008;

- 1 (iii) 0.74 in fiscal year [2008] 2009;
- 2 (iv) 0.86 in fiscal year [2009] 2010; and
- 3 (v) 1.00 in fiscal year [2010] 2011 and each fiscal year thereafter.

4 [(4) For any fiscal year, if sufficient funds are not provided in the State  
5 budget to fully fund the grants provided under this subsection, the grant to each  
6 county board under this subsection shall equal the amount determined under  
7 paragraph (3) of this subsection multiplied by a fraction:

8 (i) The numerator of which is the amount provided in the State  
9 budget to fund the grants; and

10 (ii) The denominator of which is the sum of the amounts calculated  
11 under paragraph (3) of this subsection for all the county boards.]

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
13 July 1, 2006.