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By: **Delegates Cardin, Aumann, Bartlett, Boschert, Bozman, Bromwell,  
Burns, Cryor, Elmore, Gilleland, Goodwin, Healey, Hubbard, Kaiser,  
King, Marriott, Morhaim, Myers, Nathan-Pulliam, Patterson, Ramirez,  
Ross, and Zirkin**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2006

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Schools - Summer Learning Pilot Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Summer Learning Pilot Program; providing for  
4 the purpose of the Program; requiring the State Board of Education to select a  
5 certain number of schools to host the Program; prohibiting the State Board from  
6 selecting a school for the Program without the approval of the county board of  
7 education; requiring certain county boards to develop a model summer learning  
8 program with a certain curriculum; requiring a county board, in consultation  
9 with the State Board, to determine the cost of the Program in that county;  
10 requiring a county board to identify funds to pay for a certain percentage of the  
11 Program from certain sources; requiring the State to pay certain funds for the  
12 Program under certain circumstances; requiring the State Board to submit a  
13 certain report to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a  
14 certain date; and generally relating to the Summer Learning Pilot Program.

15 BY adding to  
16 Article - Education  
17 Section 7-208  
18 Annotated Code of Maryland  
19 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

20 Preamble

21 WHEREAS, Research shows that young people are at risk of experiencing the  
22 loss of academic skills if they do not engage in educational activities during the  
23 summer months; and

24 WHEREAS, Summer learning loss significantly contributes to the widening of  
25 the achievement gap among elementary school students in Maryland; and

1 WHEREAS, Low-income students typically lose over 2 months' worth of  
2 mathematical computation and reading achievement skills each summer and that  
3 these losses are cumulative over the elementary school years; and

4 WHEREAS, Large numbers of low-income students that qualify for federally  
5 subsidized nutrition programs during the school year do not have access to breakfast  
6 and lunch over the summer; and

7 WHEREAS, Research on the effectiveness of summer learning programs in  
8 Maryland has consistently shown that these programs improve student achievement,  
9 improve teacher recruitment and retention, increase student access to nutritious  
10 meals, and facilitate a greater collaboration between community-based organizations  
11 and public agencies; and

12 WHEREAS, Successful summer learning programs in Maryland have and will  
13 continue to be proven methods of leveraging new investment from private and federal  
14 funding sources; now, therefore,

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

17 **Article - Education**

18 7-208.

19 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "PROGRAM" MEANS THE SUMMER LEARNING PILOT  
20 PROGRAM.

21 (B) THERE IS A SUMMER LEARNING PILOT PROGRAM.

22 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO:

23 (1) PREVENT THE LOSS OF ACADEMIC SKILLS OVER THE SUMMER  
24 BREAK;

25 (2) PREPARE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS TO MAKE A STRONG  
26 TRANSITION TO THE NEXT GRADE; AND

27 (3) STUDY THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAMS FOR  
28 YOUNG CHILDREN.

29 (D) (1) THE STATE BOARD SHALL SELECT UP TO THREE SCHOOLS THAT  
30 RECEIVE TITLE I FUNDS TO HOST THE PROGRAM.

31 (2) THE STATE BOARD MAY NOT SELECT A SCHOOL UNDER THIS  
32 SUBSECTION WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY BOARD.

33 (E) (1) WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT, THE COUNTY BOARD  
34 SHALL DEVELOP A MODEL PROGRAM WITH A READING AND LANGUAGE ARTS AND  
35 MATHEMATICS CURRICULUM THAT:

1 (I) PROVIDES A GRADE-APPROPRIATE PREVIEW OF THE CONCEPTS  
2 AND SKILLS THAT WILL BE TAUGHT TO STUDENTS BEGINNING THE NEXT SCHOOL  
3 YEAR;

4 (II) STRENGTHENS BASIC SKILLS; AND

5 (III) IS LINKED TO A SCHOOL'S REGULAR CURRICULUM.

6 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ASSIST THE COUNTY BOARD IN  
7 PROVIDING TRAINING FOR TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATORS, AND VOLUNTEERS ON  
8 HOW TO OPERATE AN EFFECTIVE PROGRAM.

9 (F) (1) IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE BOARD, A COUNTY BOARD  
10 SHALL DETERMINE THE COST OF THE PROGRAM IN THAT COUNTY.

11 (2) THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL IDENTIFY FUNDS FOR 50% OF THE  
12 PROGRAM FROM ANY COMBINATION OF LOCAL, FEDERAL, AND PRIVATE RESOURCES  
13 AND CONTRIBUTIONS.

14 (3) ON RECEIPT BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF THE FUNDS IDENTIFIED IN  
15 PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE STATE SHALL PAY TO THE COUNTY BOARD  
16 THE LESSER OF:

17 (I) 50% OF THE COST OF THE PROGRAM IN THAT COUNTY; OR

18 (II) THE PRODUCT OF \$150,000 MULTIPLIED BY THE NUMBER OF  
19 SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTY PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the State Board of  
21 Education shall report to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs  
22 Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee on or before December 1,  
23 2007, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, assessing the  
24 effectiveness of the Summer Learning Pilot Program established under this Act. The  
25 report shall include the following information:

26 (1) the before-summer and after-summer academic achievement scores  
27 of students attending the Program;

28 (2) a comparison of the achievement scores of students who participated  
29 in the Program and the students who did not participate in the Program, broken  
30 down by socioeconomic category;

31 (3) evaluations from parents and participating teachers;

32 (4) the number of students receiving meals as required by the free and  
33 reduced-price meal program;

34 (5) attendance records and the effectiveness of the Program based on  
35 attendance; and

1                   (6)       a description of the recruitment campaign and the response to the  
2 campaign.

3       SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
4 July 1, 2006.