

# HOUSE BILL 540

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By: **Delegate Haddaway**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2007

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Laptop Computer Distribution Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Laptop Computer Distribution Program in the  
4 Department of Education; providing the purpose of the Program; requiring the  
5 Department to work with each county to provide certain laptop computers to  
6 certain students enrolled in certain public schools; authorizing a county board to  
7 opt out of the Program for certain reasons; requiring certain county boards to  
8 develop and submit to the Department a certain technology plan that includes  
9 certain information; requiring the Department to provide certain funds in a  
10 certain amount for the cost of the program in each participating county;  
11 requiring certain funding to be included in the Department’s annual budget;  
12 prohibiting certain appropriations for the Program from supplanting the State  
13 share of certain basic expenses; authorizing the State Board of Education to  
14 adopt certain regulations; and generally relating to the Laptop Computer  
15 Distribution Program.

16 BY adding to

17 Article – Education

18 Section 7–10B–01 through 7–10B–06 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 10B.  
19 Laptop Computer Distribution Program”

20 Annotated Code of Maryland

21 (2006 Replacement Volume)

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

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



**Article - Education****SUBTITLE 10B. LAPTOP COMPUTER DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM.****7-10B-01.**

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "COUNTY BOARD" INCLUDES THE BALTIMORE CITY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS.

(C) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE LAPTOP COMPUTER DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM.

**7-10B-02.**

(A) THERE IS A LAPTOP COMPUTER DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT.

(B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY TO ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS TO IMPROVE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY LITERACY AND TO PREPARE STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS BEYOND THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT.

**7-10B-03.**

(A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL WORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COUNTY BOARD IN EACH COUNTY TO PROVIDE A LAPTOP COMPUTER TO EVERY SEVENTH GRADER ENROLLED IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE COUNTY BOARD.

(B) A COUNTY BOARD MAY CHOOSE TO OPT OUT OF THE PROGRAM IF THE COUNTY BOARD DETERMINES THAT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROGRAM WOULD BE A FISCAL HARDSHIP.

**7-10B-04.**

1           **(A) EACH PARTICIPATING COUNTY BOARD SHALL DEVELOP AND**  
2 **SUBMIT A TECHNOLOGY PLAN TO THE DEPARTMENT.**

3           **(B) A TECHNOLOGY PLAN SHALL INCLUDE:**

4                   **(1) A VISION STATEMENT;**

5                   **(2) THE COUNTY BOARD’S STRATEGY FOR INTEGRATING THE**  
6 **VARIOUS COMPONENTS OF A TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE INTO THE COUNTY’S**  
7 **PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE, CURRICULUM, AND ADMINISTRATION;**

8                   **(3) PROJECTIONS OF THE NECESSARY:**

9                           **(I) PERSONNEL FOR THE INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE,**  
10 **TRAINING, AND SUPPORT OF TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS;**

11                           **(II) PHYSICAL                   INFRASTRUCTURE                   UPGRADES,**  
12 **RENOVATIONS, AND ADDITIONS;**

13                           **(III) TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR VARIOUS GROUPS OF USERS;**

14                           **(IV) TYPES OF ASSISTIVE DEVICES AND PROCESSES FOR**  
15 **SUPPORTING NEW TECHNOLOGY; AND**

16                           **(V) SOFTWARE AND DIGITAL CONTENT;**

17                   **(4) CURRICULUM INTEGRATION PLAN AND INSTRUCTION FOR**  
18 **STUDENTS AND TEACHERS IN K-12 GRADES TO IMPROVE ACADEMIC**  
19 **ACHIEVEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY LITERACY;**

20                   **(5) PROJECTED COSTS FOR:**

21                           **(I) ACQUIRING,                   INSTALLING,                   MAINTAINING,                   AND**  
22 **REPLACING EQUIPMENT, SOFTWARE, AND ONLINE RESOURCES;**

23                           **(II) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING;**

24                           **(III) ADDITIONAL                   TEMPORARY                   AND                   PERMANENT**  
25 **PERSONNEL; AND**

1                   (IV) ANY OTHER RELATED EXPENSES REQUIRED TO  
2 IMPLEMENT THE TECHNOLOGY PLAN;

3                   (6) A MECHANISM AND TIME LINE TO MONITOR PROGRESS  
4 TOWARD PLAN TARGETS; AND

5                   (7) A METHOD FOR EVALUATING THE EFFECTIVENESS IN  
6 INTEGRATING THE TECHNOLOGY INTO THE CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION  
7 AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION.

8 **7-10B-05.**

9                   (A) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE  
10 PROGRAM FOR EACH COUNTY THAT IS EQUAL TO 70% OF THE AMOUNT OF THE  
11 COST OF THE PROGRAM IN THE COUNTY.

12                   (2) THE FUNDING REQUIRED FOR THE PROGRAM UNDER  
13 PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE  
14 DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL BUDGET.

15                   (B) APPROPRIATIONS MADE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE FOR LAPTOP  
16 COMPUTERS MAY NOT BE USED TO SUPPLANT THE EXISTING STATE SHARE OF  
17 BASIC CURRENT EXPENSES UNDER § 5-202 OF THIS ARTICLE.

18 **7-10B-06.**

19                   THE STATE BOARD MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE  
20 PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

21                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
22 July 1, 2007.