

HOUSE BILL 577

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By: **Delegates N. King, Ali, Barkley, Feldman, Gilchrist, Gutierrez, Hixson, Howard, Kelly, Kramer, Krebs, Lawton, Manno, Murphy, Ross, and F. Turner**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2007

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **County Boards of Education – Master Plans – Extension**

3 FOR the purpose of extending the period during which county boards of education are
4 required to submit comprehensive master plans to the State Department of
5 Education; extending the period during which county boards of education are
6 required to submit annual updates to their comprehensive master plans to the
7 State Superintendent of Schools; clarifying the period of time that is required to
8 be covered by annual updates to comprehensive master plans; and generally
9 relating to the submission of comprehensive master plans and updates by
10 county boards of education.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
12 Article – Education
13 Section 5–401(a), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), and (i)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2006 Replacement Volume)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
17 Article – Education
18 Section 5–401(b) and (h)
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2006 Replacement Volume)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

3 **Article – Education**

4 5–401.

5 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

6 (2) “Local performance standards” means standards for student and
7 school performance developed by a county board.

8 (3) “Plan” means a comprehensive master plan.

9 (4) “State performance standards” means standards for student and
10 school performance approved by the State Board.

11 (b) (1) Each county board shall develop and implement a comprehensive
12 master plan that describes the goals, objectives, and strategies that will be used to
13 improve student achievement and meet State performance standards and local
14 performance standards in each segment of the student population.

15 (2) [(i)] Each county board shall submit a plan to the Department on
16 or before:

17 (I) October 1, 2003; AND

18 (II) **OCTOBER 1, 2008.**

19 [(ii)](3) At least 60 days before submitting a plan to the
20 Department, a county board shall provide a copy of the plan to the:

21 [1.](I) County council and if applicable, county
22 executive; or

23 [2.](II) County commissioners.

24 [(3)](4) Subject to subsection (i) of this section, the plan shall:

25 (i) Extend for a 5–year period beginning with the [2003–2004
26 school year] **SCHOOL YEAR DURING WHICH EACH COUNTY BOARD IS REQUIRED**
27 **TO SUBMIT A PLAN TO THE DEPARTMENT;** and

1 (ii) Be updated annually by the county board and submitted for
2 review and approval by the State Superintendent of Schools on or before October 15 of
3 each year.

4 **(5) EACH UPDATE REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (4)(II) OF THIS**
5 **SUBSECTION SHALL COVER A PERIOD BEGINNING WITH THE PREVIOUS FISCAL**
6 **YEAR THROUGH THE LAST FISCAL YEAR COVERED BY THE PLAN.**

7 ~~[(4)]~~**(6)** Each county board shall submit with the update required
8 under paragraph ~~[(3)(ii)]~~ **(4)(II)** of this subsection:

9 (i) A detailed summary of how the board's current year
10 approved budget and increases in expenditures over the prior year are consistent with
11 the master plan; and

12 (ii) A summary of how the board's actual prior year budget and
13 additional expenditures in the prior year's budget aligned with the master plan.

14 (c) The plan shall include:

15 (1) Goals and objectives as required under subsections (d) through (f)
16 of this section that are aligned with State performance standards and local
17 performance standards;

18 (2) Implementation strategies for meeting goals and objectives;

19 (3) Methods for measuring progress toward meeting goals and
20 objectives;

21 (4) Time lines for implementation of the strategies for meeting goals
22 and objectives;

23 (5) Time lines for meeting goals and objectives;

24 (6) A description of the alignment of the county board's budget with
25 goals, objectives, and strategies for improving student achievement;

26 (7) The impact of the proposed goals, objectives, and implementation
27 strategies on public school facilities and capital improvements that may be needed to
28 implement the plan; and

1 (8) Any other information required by the State Superintendent.

2 (d) The plan shall include goals, objectives, and strategies regarding the
3 performance of:

4 (1) Students requiring special education, as defined in § 5–209 of this
5 title;

6 (2) Students with limited–English proficiency, as defined in § 5–208 of
7 this title;

8 (3) Prekindergarten students;

9 (4) Kindergarten students;

10 (5) Gifted and talented students, as defined in § 8–201 of this article;

11 (6) Students enrolled in career and technology courses;

12 (7) Students failing to meet, or failing to make progress toward
13 meeting, State performance standards, including any segment of the student
14 population that is, on average, performing at a lower achievement level than the
15 student population as a whole; and

16 (8) Any other segment of the student population identified by the
17 State Superintendent.

18 (e) With regard to subsection (d)(7) of this section, the plan shall include
19 strategies to address any disparities in achievement identified for any segment of the
20 student population.

21 (f) (1) (i) The State Superintendent shall review each plan to
22 determine whether the plan complies with the requirements of subsections (b) through
23 (e) of this section.

24 (ii) If the State Superintendent determines that a plan does not
25 comply with the requirements of subsections (b) through (e) of this section, the State
26 Superintendent may require specific revisions to the plan.

27 (2) (i) The State Superintendent may review the content of each
28 plan to assess whether the plan will have the effect of improving student achievement
29 and increasing progress toward meeting State performance standards.

1 (ii) If the State Superintendent determines that a plan will not
2 have the effect of improving student achievement and increasing progress toward
3 meeting State performance standards, the State Superintendent may require specific
4 revisions to the plan.

5 (3) A county board may not implement a plan unless it has been
6 approved by the State Superintendent.

7 (g) (1) A county board may submit a preexisting management plan to the
8 Department as the county board's plan under subsection (b) of this section.

9 (2) If the State Superintendent determines that the preexisting
10 management plan meets the requirements set forth in this section, the State
11 Superintendent shall approve the preexisting management plan as the county board's
12 plan.

13 (h) (1) The State Superintendent annually shall review how each county
14 board's current year approved budget and actual prior year budget align with the
15 master plan and any updates to the master plan. This review may be based on the
16 information required to be submitted by the county board under subsection [(b)(4)]
17 **(B)(6)** of this section and any other information required by the State Superintendent.

18 (2) The State Superintendent annually shall report the results of the
19 budget review by December 31 to the Governor, the county governing body, and,
20 subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

21 (i) (1) If a school system fails to demonstrate progress toward improving
22 student achievement and meeting State performance standards in each segment of the
23 student population during a school year, the State Superintendent shall review the
24 content of the plan, any updates to the plan, and the results of the annual review
25 required under subsection (h)(1) of this section to assess whether the plan will have
26 the effect of improving student achievement and increasing progress toward meeting
27 State performance standards.

28 (2) If the State Superintendent determines that a plan will not have
29 the effect of improving student achievement and increasing progress toward meeting
30 State performance standards, the State Superintendent shall require specific revisions
31 to the plan.

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
33 October 1, 2007.