

HOUSE BILL 389

F1
SB 330/07 – EHE

8lr2711
CF SB 78

By: **Delegate Branch**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2008

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study System Variables That Impact Student Achievement in**
3 **Underperforming Public Schools**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study System Variables That
5 Impact Student Achievement in Underperforming Public Schools; providing for
6 the membership, purposes, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a
7 member of the Task Force from receiving compensation but entitling members
8 to certain reimbursement for certain expenses under certain regulations in the
9 State budget; requiring the Task Force to study education system variables that
10 impact student achievement in underperforming public schools; requiring the
11 Task Force to submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or
12 before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally
13 relating to the Task Force to Study System Variables That Impact Student
14 Achievement in Underperforming Public Schools.

15 Preamble

16 WHEREAS, Both national and State education policies are based on the
17 principle that no child be left behind; and

18 WHEREAS, The federal No Child Left Behind Act requires that all students
19 achieve proficiency in reading, mathematics, science, and other core subject areas by
20 2014; and

21 WHEREAS, The school-age population in Maryland continues to grow and has
22 increased in racial, ethnic, and linguistic diversity; and

23 WHEREAS, Maryland's School Assessment 2003 results indicate that 63% of
24 economically disadvantaged students, 73% of English language learners, and 74% of
25 students with disabilities are below proficiency in reading and mathematics; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 WHEREAS, Maryland's future economic and social vitality depends on the
2 successful education of all its children; and

3 WHEREAS, Maryland recognizes that the presence of highly effective teachers
4 and principals in all schools is the key to achievement of all students; and

5 WHEREAS, There is a critical shortage in Maryland of highly effective teachers
6 and principals available and committed to serving students in underperforming
7 schools; now, therefore,

8 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
9 MARYLAND, That:

10 (a) There is a Task Force to Study System Variables That Impact Student
11 Achievement in Underperforming Public Schools.

12 (b) The Task Force shall consist of the following members:

13 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
14 President of the Senate;

15 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
16 of the House;

17 (3) one member of the Legislative Black Caucus, appointed by the
18 Chair of the Legislative Black Caucus;

19 (4) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the State Superintendent's
20 designee; and

21 (5) the following nine members, appointed by the Governor:

22 (i) one representative of the Maryland Association of Boards of
23 Education;

24 (ii) one representative of the Maryland State Teachers
25 Association;

26 (iii) one representative of the Public School Superintendents
27 Association of Maryland;

28 (iv) one representative of the Maryland Parent and Teachers
29 Association;

30 (v) one representative of the Maryland Association of Secondary
31 School Principals;

32 (vi) one representative of the Maryland Association of Counties;

1 (vii) one representative of the Maryland Education Coalition;

2 (viii) one representative from an organization representing school
3 children with disabilities; and

4 (ix) one representative from the Baltimore Teachers Union.

5 (c) The Governor shall attempt to appoint the members of the Task Force so
6 that the Task Force reflects the regional, ethnic, economic, and gender diversity of the
7 State.

8 (d) The Governor shall designate the two co-chairs of the Task Force from
9 among the legislative membership on the Task Force so that one chair is a Senator
10 and one chair is a Delegate.

11 (e) The Maryland State Department of Education and the Department of
12 Legislative Services shall jointly provide staff for the Task Force.

13 (f) A member of the Task Force:

14 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

15 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
16 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

17 (g) The Task Force shall study education system variables that may impact
18 student achievement in underperforming public schools, including:

19 (1) educational leadership;

20 (2) class size;

21 (3) teacher quality;

22 (4) facilities; and

23 (5) any other areas determined to be relevant by the Task Force.

24 (h) The Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations to the
25 Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the
26 General Assembly, on or before December 1, 2009.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 October 1, 2008. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 2 months and, at
29 the end of November 30, 2009, with no further action required by the General
30 Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

