

SENATE BILL 849

F1
HB 902/07 – HGO

8lr3095
CF HB 1411

By: **Senator Rosapepe**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2008

Assigned to: Rules

Re-referred to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs, February 18, 2008

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 26, 2008

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Fitness and Athletics Equity for Students with Disabilities Act**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring county ~~school systems~~ boards of education to ensure ~~the~~
4 ~~participation of that~~ students with disabilities have certain opportunities in
5 certain physical education and certain athletic programs; ~~providing for certain~~
6 ~~exceptions to these requirements under certain circumstances~~; requiring county
7 ~~school systems~~ boards to provide certain accommodations; requiring county
8 ~~school systems~~ boards to develop certain ~~programs~~, policies, and procedures;
9 requiring county ~~school systems~~ boards to provide opportunities meeting certain
10 criteria to students; ~~requiring county school systems to designate a certain~~
11 ~~employee to handle certain duties and responsibilities~~; ~~requiring each county~~
12 ~~school system to provide notice of certain information to certain individuals~~;
13 ~~requiring each county school system to adopt and publish grievance procedures~~
14 ~~meeting certain criteria~~; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt a
15 certain model policy to assist certain county boards; requiring the State
16 Department of Education to monitor compliance by county ~~school systems~~
17 boards with certain requirements; authorizing the Department to investigate
18 and take or require certain action in response to certain complaints; ~~authorizing~~
19 ~~the Department to make certain determinations~~; ~~authorizing the State Board of~~
20 ~~Education to take certain actions~~; requiring county ~~school systems~~ boards and
21 the Department to provide certain reports; requiring the Department to adopt
22 certain regulations; ~~clarifying the availability of certain legal remedies~~;
23 ~~providing for the availability of certain legal action for noncompliance with~~
24 ~~certain provisions~~ providing for the enforcement of certain provisions;
25 authorizing a court to award attorney's fees; defining certain terms; providing

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 for a deadline for ~~local school system~~ compliance with certain provisions;
2 providing for the construction of this Act; and generally relating to access to
3 physical education and athletic programs in public schools by students with
4 disabilities.

5 BY adding to

6 Article – Education

7 Section 7-4B-01 through ~~7-4B-07~~ 7-4B-06 to be under the new subtitle

8 “Subtitle 4B. Physical Education and Athletic Programs for Students
9 with Disabilities”

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

12 Preamble

13 WHEREAS, The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 provides that exclusion and
14 segregation of individuals with disabilities by recipients of federal funds is prohibited
15 discrimination; and

16 WHEREAS, The Americans with Disabilities Act, signed into law in 1990,
17 provides that no qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such
18 disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services,
19 programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subjected to discrimination by any such
20 entity; and

21 WHEREAS, Maryland public schools offer a variety of physical education and
22 athletic opportunities to students that provide numerous educational benefits,
23 including greater academic success, better physical and psychological health,
24 responsible social behaviors, and enhanced interpersonal skills; and

25 WHEREAS, Sports participation is an effective intervention in combating
26 obesity; and

27 WHEREAS, The aforementioned benefits and opportunities are particularly
28 significant for students with disabilities; and

29 WHEREAS, Approximately 56 million people in the United States have
30 documented disabilities; and

31 WHEREAS, Studies indicate that 56% of people with disabilities do not engage
32 in any physical activity, compared to 36% of people without disabilities, and only 23%
33 of people with disabilities are active for 30 minutes three or more times per week; and

34 WHEREAS, Childhood obesity is a national health concern, and physical
35 activity can help prevent secondary health problems related to disabilities; and

36 WHEREAS, Students with disabilities have historically been underserved by
37 school physical education and physical activity programs, such as athletics; and

1 WHEREAS, Including students with disabilities in mainstream physical
 2 education and athletic programs and adapted programs can provide students with
 3 disabilities with the opportunity to realize the full benefits of such programs; now,
 4 therefore,

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

7 **Article - Education**

8 **SUBTITLE 4B. PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETIC PROGRAMS FOR**
 9 **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.**

10 **7-4B-01.**

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

13 (B) “ADAPTED PROGRAM” MEANS A PROGRAM THAT IS ~~SPECIFICALLY~~
 14 DEVELOPED FOR A STUDENT WITH A DISABILITY.

15 (C) “ALLIED SPORTS OR UNIFIED PROGRAM” MEANS A PROGRAM THAT
 16 IS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED TO COMBINE GROUPS OF STUDENTS WITH AND
 17 WITHOUT DISABILITIES TOGETHER IN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY.

18 (D) “MAINSTREAM ATHLETIC PROGRAM” MEANS INTRAMURAL OR
 19 INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ACTIVITY THAT IS DEVELOPED AND OFFERED TO
 20 STUDENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE
 21 BOARD.

22 ~~(D)~~ (E) “MAINSTREAM PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETIC
 23 PROGRAM” MEANS A SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITY PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM
 24 THAT IS DEVELOPED AND OFFERED TO ALL STUDENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH
 25 CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE BOARD.

26 ~~(E)~~ “PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETIC PROGRAM” MEANS A
 27 PHYSICAL EDUCATION OR ATHLETIC ACTIVITY HELD ON THE PREMISES OF OR
 28 SPONSORED BY A PUBLIC SCHOOL.

29 (F) “STUDENT WITH A DISABILITY” MEANS A STUDENT WHO MEETS THE
 30 DEFINITION OF A “HANDICAPPED PERSON” AS DEFINED IN 45 C.F.R. § 84.3(J).

31 **7-4B-02.**

1 (A) ~~THE~~ SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE
 2 ~~DEPARTMENT STATE BOARD~~ AND EACH COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM BOARD
 3 SHALL:

4 ~~(1) ENSURE THE PARTICIPATION OF STUDENTS WITH~~
 5 ~~DISABILITIES INTO PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETIC PROGRAMS FOR~~
 6 ~~STUDENTS WITHOUT DISABILITIES TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE;~~

7 (1) ENSURE THAT STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES HAVE AN EQUAL
 8 OPPORTUNITY TO:

9 (I) PARTICIPATE IN MAINSTREAM PHYSICAL EDUCATION
 10 PROGRAMS; AND

11 (II) TRY OUT FOR AND, IF SELECTED, PARTICIPATE IN
 12 MAINSTREAM ATHLETIC PROGRAMS;

13 (2) ENSURE THE PROVISION OF REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS
 14 NECESSARY TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
 15 TO PARTICIPATE, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT POSSIBLE, IN MAINSTREAM
 16 PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND MAINSTREAM ATHLETIC PROGRAMS; AND

17 (3) ENSURE THAT ADAPTED, ALLIED, OR UNIFIED PHYSICAL
 18 EDUCATION AND ATHLETIC PROGRAMS ~~FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ARE~~
 19 ~~DEVELOPED TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES WITH A PHYSICAL~~
 20 ~~EDUCATION OR ATHLETIC PROGRAM THAT IS AS EFFECTIVE AS PROGRAMS~~
 21 ~~PROVIDED TO STUDENTS WITHOUT DISABILITIES~~ ARE AVAILABLE.

22 (B) AN EXCEPTION TO THE ~~REQUIREMENT~~ REQUIREMENTS UNDER
 23 SUBSECTION ~~(A)(1)~~ (A) OF THIS SECTION MAY BE MADE WHEN THE INCLUSION
 24 OF A STUDENT:

25 (1) PRESENTS AN OBJECTIVE SAFETY RISK TO THE STUDENT OR
 26 TO OTHERS, BASED ON AN INDIVIDUALIZED ASSESSMENT OF THE STUDENT; OR

27 (2) FUNDAMENTALLY ALTERS THE NATURE OF THE SCHOOL'S
 28 MAINSTREAM PHYSICAL EDUCATION OR MAINSTREAM ATHLETIC ~~ATHLETIC OR~~
 29 ~~PHYSICAL EDUCATION~~ PROGRAM.

30 ~~(C) (1) A COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM SHALL CONSIDER DEVELOPING~~
 31 ~~SINGLE-SEX COMPETITIVE TEAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN PUBLIC~~
 32 ~~SECONDARY SCHOOLS.~~

33 ~~(2) A PROGRAM DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL~~
 34 ~~CONSIDER THE INTERESTS OF THE STUDENTS FOR WHOM THE PROGRAMS ARE~~

1 ~~BEING DEVELOPED AND THE INTERESTS OF THE SCHOOL SYSTEM IN~~
 2 ~~DEVELOPING A SPECTRUM OF ATHLETIC EXPERIENCES TO STUDENTS.~~

3 ~~(3) COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEMS SHALL:~~

4 ~~(I) ENCOURAGE FEMALE STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES TO~~
 5 ~~PARTICIPATE IN ADAPTED PROGRAMS; AND~~

6 ~~(II) ENSURE THAT FEMALE STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES~~
 7 ~~ARE ADEQUATELY REPRESENTED IN ADAPTED PROGRAMS.~~

8 ~~(4) A COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM MAY INCLUDE STUDENTS OF BOTH~~
 9 ~~SEXES IN A PROGRAM DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION IF THE SCHOOL~~
 10 ~~SYSTEM CAN DEMONSTRATE THAT THE PROGRAM HAS BEEN DEVELOPED TO~~
 11 ~~PROVIDE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES TO BOTH SEXES AND THE SCHOOL SYSTEM~~
 12 ~~HAS CONSIDERED THE SYSTEM'S CAPACITY TO PROVIDE SINGLE SEX~~
 13 ~~COMPETITIVE TEAMS.~~

14 ~~(D)~~ (C) THE PROVISION OF ADAPTED, ALLIED, OR UNIFIED
 15 PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES DOES NOT MITIGATE THE DUTY
 16 OF A COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM BOARD TO PROVIDE AN INDIVIDUAL STUDENT
 17 WITH A DISABILITY AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO BE FULLY INCLUDED IN
 18 MAINSTREAM PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND MAINSTREAM ATHLETIC PROGRAMS
 19 ~~AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS WITHOUT DISABILITIES.~~

20 7-4B-03.

21 (A) A COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM BOARD SHALL:

22 (1) DEVELOP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO PROMOTE AND
 23 PROTECT THE INCLUSION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES INTO MAINSTREAM
 24 PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND MAINSTREAM ATHLETIC PROGRAMS; AND

25 (2) PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS WITH ~~AND~~
 26 ~~WITHOUT~~ DISABILITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN EXTRACURRICULAR OR
 27 INTERSCHOLASTIC COMPETITION, AS DEMONSTRATED BY:

28 (I) EQUIVALENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTICIPATION IN
 29 EXTRACURRICULAR OR INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC PROGRAMS ~~FOR~~
 30 ~~STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES AND STUDENTS WITHOUT DISABILITIES IN~~
 31 ~~NUMBERS SUBSTANTIALLY PROPORTIONATE TO THEIR RESPECTIVE~~
 32 ~~ENROLLMENTS; AND; OR~~

33 (II) EVIDENCE INDICATING THAT THE INTERESTS AND
 34 ABILITIES OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES HAVE BEEN FULLY AND

1 EFFECTIVELY ACCOMMODATED BY THE ~~SCHOOL SYSTEM'S~~ COUNTY BOARD'S
2 IMPLEMENTED PROGRAMS; AND.

3 (B) THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT A MODEL POLICY TO ASSIST A
4 COUNTY BOARD WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION.

5 ~~(3) PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES WITH BENEFITS AND~~
6 ~~OPPORTUNITIES EQUIVALENT TO THOSE PROVIDED TO STUDENTS WITHOUT~~
7 ~~DISABILITIES IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:~~

8 ~~(I) PROVISION AND MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT AND~~
9 ~~SUPPLIES;~~

10 ~~(II) PROVISION OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO ACTIVELY~~
11 ~~PARTICIPATE AND BE RECOGNIZED AS AN ATHLETE OR TEAM MEMBER;~~

12 ~~(III) SCHEDULING OF ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING~~
13 ~~GAMES AND PRACTICE TIMES;~~

14 ~~(IV) PROVISION OF FACILITIES, INCLUDING LOCKER ROOMS;~~

15 ~~(V) ACCESSIBLE TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATIONS;~~

16 ~~(VI) OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE COACHING;~~

17 ~~(VII) PUBLICITY AND SUPPORT SERVICES; AND~~

18 ~~(VIII) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.~~

19 ~~7-4B-04.~~

20 ~~(A) EACH COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM SHALL DESIGNATE AT LEAST ONE~~
21 ~~QUALIFIED EMPLOYEE TO COORDINATE ITS EFFORTS TO COMPLY WITH AND~~
22 ~~CARRY OUT THE SYSTEM'S RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS SUBTITLE,~~
23 ~~INCLUDING THE INVESTIGATION OF ANY COMPLAINT ALLEGING~~
24 ~~NONCOMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.~~

25 ~~(B) (1) EACH COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM SHALL ANNUALLY NOTIFY~~
26 ~~ALL STUDENTS, PARENTS, OR GUARDIANS OF THE NAME, OFFICE ADDRESS, AND~~
27 ~~OFFICE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE EMPLOYEE OR EMPLOYEES DESIGNATED~~
28 ~~UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.~~

29 ~~(2) (I) EACH COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM SHALL NOTIFY ALL~~
30 ~~STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND GUARDIANS OF THE RIGHTS OF STUDENTS WITH~~

~~1 DISABILITIES UNDER THIS SUBTITLE NO LATER THAN THE FIRST WEEK OF A
2 NEW ACADEMIC YEAR OR AT REGISTRATION.~~

~~3 (H) THE RIGHTS OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES UNDER
4 THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE PUBLISHED IN ANY STUDENT HANDBOOK OR
5 PUBLICATION DESCRIBING SCHOOL ATHLETIC OFFERINGS.~~

~~6 (C) (1) EACH COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM SHALL ADOPT AND PUBLISH
7 GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES PROVIDING FOR PROMPT AND EQUITABLE
8 RESOLUTION OF WRITTEN STUDENT COMPLAINTS, INCLUDING COMPLAINTS
9 BROUGHT BY A PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE OF A STUDENT
10 WHO IS ALLEGING ANY ACTION THAT WOULD BE A VIOLATION OF THE
11 PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.~~

~~12 (2) THE FILING OF A COMPLAINT WITH A COUNTY SCHOOL
13 SYSTEM DOES NOT LIMIT THE RIGHT OF A STUDENT, PARENT, OR GUARDIAN TO
14 PURSUE ANY AVAILABLE LEGAL REMEDIES.~~

~~15 7-4B-05.~~

~~16 7-4B-04.~~

~~17 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MONITOR THE COMPLIANCE OF COUNTY
18 SCHOOL SYSTEMS BOARDS WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.~~

~~19 (B) THE DEPARTMENT MAY:~~

~~20 (1) INVESTIGATE INVESTIGATE AND TAKE CORRECTIVE ACTION
21 IN RESPONSE TO COMPLAINTS FROM PARENTS, GUARDIANS, OR LEGAL
22 REPRESENTATIVES OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES WHO ALLEGE A VIOLATION
23 OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND.~~

~~24 (2) REQUIRE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANS FROM SCHOOLS OR
25 COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEMS TO EFFECTUATE COMPLIANCE WITH THE
26 PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.~~

~~27 (C) IF, AFTER PROVIDING A REASONABLE TIME FOR COMPLIANCE, THE
28 DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT A SCHOOL OR COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM HAS
29 FAILED TO IMPLEMENT A CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN OR HAS OTHERWISE
30 FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE STATE
31 BOARD, ON RECOMMENDATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT, MAY:~~

~~32 (1) ORDER THAT AN ATHLETIC TEAM OR TEAMS WITHIN THE
33 APPLICABLE SCHOOL OR SCHOOL SYSTEM SHALL NOT PARTICIPATE IN OR
34 SHALL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC COMPETITION,~~

1 ~~INCLUDING POSTSEASON ATHLETIC CONTESTS FOR STUDENTS WITHOUT~~
2 ~~DISABILITIES; OR~~

3 ~~(2) WITHHOLD FUNDS IN AN AMOUNT THAT THE STATE BOARD~~
4 ~~DETERMINES IS SUFFICIENT TO SECURE THE SCHOOL OR SCHOOL SYSTEM'S~~
5 ~~COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.~~

6 ~~(D) ANY FUNDS WITHHELD BY THE STATE BOARD UNDER THIS~~
7 ~~SUBSECTION MAY BE ALLOTTED TO THE APPLICABLE SCHOOL OR SCHOOL~~
8 ~~SYSTEM UPON THE STATE BOARD'S DETERMINATION THAT THE APPLICABLE~~
9 ~~SCHOOL OR SCHOOL SYSTEM IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS~~
10 ~~SUBTITLE.~~

11 ~~7-4B-06.~~

12 7-4B-05.

13 (A) ON OR BEFORE ~~OCTOBER~~ FEBRUARY 1 OF EACH YEAR, EACH
14 COUNTY BOARD SHALL SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT A REPORT OF THE
15 SCHOOL SYSTEM'S COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

16 (B) THE FIRST ANNUAL REPORT COMPLETED BY A COUNTY BOARD IN
17 ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE:

18 ~~(1) AN ASSESSMENT OF HOW MANY~~ THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS
19 WITH DISABILITIES THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM'S MAINSTREAM
20 PHYSICAL EDUCATION OR MAINSTREAM ATHLETIC PROGRAMS; AND

21 ~~(2) THE TYPES OF DISABILITIES POSSESSED BY STUDENTS WITH~~
22 ~~DISABILITIES WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHOOL SYSTEM'S PHYSICAL~~
23 ~~EDUCATION OR ATHLETIC PROGRAMS;~~

24 ~~(3) A LIST OF ACCOMMODATIONS PROVIDED BY THE SCHOOL~~
25 ~~SYSTEM TO ENSURE PARTICIPATION BY STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN~~
26 ~~SCHOOL SYSTEM PHYSICAL EDUCATION OR ATHLETIC PROGRAMS; AND~~

27 ~~(4)~~ (2) A DESCRIPTION OF PLANS BY THE ~~SCHOOL SYSTEM~~
28 COUNTY BOARD TO AFFIRMATIVELY ENGAGE STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN
29 MAINSTREAM PHYSICAL EDUCATION OR MAINSTREAM ATHLETIC PROGRAMS.

30 (C) REPORTS SUBMITTED BY A COUNTY ~~SCHOOL SYSTEM BOARD~~
31 SUBSEQUENT TO THE REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS
32 SECTION SHALL BE CONSISTENT WITH REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE STATE
33 BOARD. INCLUDE:

1 ~~(1) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES WHO HAVE~~
2 ~~BEEN INCLUDED IN MAINSTREAM PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETIC~~
3 ~~PROGRAMS;~~

4 ~~(2) THE NUMBER AND TYPE OF ACCOMMODATIONS THAT HAVE~~
5 ~~BEEN PROVIDED FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETIC PROGRAMS TO~~
6 ~~ENSURE PARTICIPATION BY STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES;~~

7 ~~(3) THE ADAPTED PROGRAMS THAT HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED TO~~
8 ~~PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES TO PARTICIPATE~~
9 ~~IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETIC PROGRAMS;~~

10 ~~(4) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES WHO~~
11 ~~PARTICIPATED IN ADAPTED PROGRAMS; AND~~

12 ~~(5) A LIST OF EFFORTS MADE BY THE SCHOOL SYSTEM TO~~
13 ~~ENCOURAGE THE PARTICIPATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES IN~~
14 ~~PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETIC PROGRAMS.~~

15 ~~(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DIRECT A COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION~~
16 ~~THAT HAS FAILED TO SUBMIT A REPORT REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION TO~~
17 ~~TAKE THOSE STEPS NECESSARY FOR THE SCHOOL SYSTEM TO COMPLY WITH~~
18 ~~THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.~~

19 ~~(E)~~ (D) ON OR BEFORE ~~DECEMBER 31~~ MAY 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE
20 DEPARTMENT SHALL, SUBJECT TO § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT
21 ARTICLE, SUBMIT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY A REPORT OF ~~COUNTY SCHOOL~~
22 ~~SYSTEM~~ COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.

23 ~~7-4B-07.~~ 7-4B-06.

24 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS AS NECESSARY TO
25 IMPLEMENT THIS SUBTITLE.

26 (B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO
27 COUNTY ~~SCHOOL SYSTEMS~~ BOARDS CONCERNING THE PROVISIONS OF THIS
28 SUBTITLE.

29 ~~(C) (1) THE RIGHTS, REMEDIES, AND PROHIBITIONS PROVIDED~~
30 ~~UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE IN ADDITION TO AND CUMULATIVE OF ANY~~
31 ~~OTHER RIGHT, REMEDY, OR PROHIBITION PROVIDED UNDER COMMON LAW,~~
32 ~~FEDERAL LAW, ANY OTHER LAWS OF THIS STATE, A CONSENT DECREE, OR ANY~~
33 ~~OTHER SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO BY A LOCAL OR STATE~~
34 ~~GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY TO ADDRESS EQUITY FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH~~
35 ~~DISABILITIES IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION OR ATHLETIC PROGRAMS.~~

1 ~~(2) THIS SUBTITLE MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO DENY,~~
 2 ~~ABROGATE, OR IMPAIR ANY SUCH FEDERAL OR STATE COMMON LAW OR~~
 3 ~~STATUTORY RIGHT, REMEDY, OR PROHIBITION.~~

4 ~~(D) (C) (1) THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE MAY BE ENFORCED~~
 5 ~~AGAINST THE STATE BOARD OR A COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM BOARD BY A CIVIL~~
 6 ~~ACTION FOR ANY AVAILABLE RELIEF, INCLUDING INJUNCTIVE RELIEF OR~~
 7 ~~DAMAGES, OR BOTH, WHICH SHALL BE INDEPENDENT OF ANY OTHER RIGHTS~~
 8 ~~AND REMEDIES AND SHALL INCLUDE A RIGHT TO ATTORNEYS' FEES.~~

9 **(2) A COURT MAY AWARD ATTORNEY'S FEES.**

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That any county ~~school system~~
 11 board of education subject to the provisions of this Act shall be in compliance with the
 12 provisions of this Act as expeditiously as possible, but no later than 3 years from the
 13 effective date of this Act.

14 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
 15 July 1, 2008.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.