

SENATE BILL 966

F1, P1

0lr3010

By: **Senators Pugh, Harrington, Lenett, Madaleno, McFadden, Muse, and Raskin**

Introduced and read first time: February 19, 2010

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – High School Diploma by Examination**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the eligibility requirement for obtaining a high school
4 diploma by examination by repealing a certain waiting period; repealing the
5 authority of the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation to waive a
6 certain withdrawal requirement; and generally relating to the eligibility
7 requirements for an individual to obtain a high school diploma by examination.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Labor and Employment
10 Section 11–808
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Labor and Employment**

16 11–808.

17 (a) An individual may obtain a high school diploma by examination as
18 provided in this section if the individual:

19 (1) has not obtained a high school diploma;

20 (2) has resided in this State or on a federal reservation in this State
21 for at least 3 months, provided that the Secretary may waive the residence
22 requirement if the Secretary considers the waiver justified;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (3) is 16 years old or older; and

2 (4) has withdrawn from a regular full-time public or private school
3 program [for at least 3 months, provided that the Secretary may waive the withdrawal
4 requirement if the Secretary considers the waiver justified].

5 (b) The Department shall offer examinations to individuals who are pursuing
6 a high school diploma under this subtitle at least twice each year at places throughout
7 the State that are reasonably convenient for the applicants.

8 (c) The examination shall:

9 (1) be offered in appropriate high school subject areas; and

10 (2) be of a comprehensive nature as determined by the State Board of
11 Education.

12 (d) An individual who fails an examination may repeat taking the
13 examination.

14 (e) A member of the armed forces may earn a Maryland high school diploma
15 by taking the examinations furnished by the United States Armed Forces Institute
16 and given by the appropriate service officer.

17 (f) The diploma shall be awarded in accordance with the regulations adopted
18 by the Secretary and the State Board of Education.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
20 October 1, 2010.