

HB1214/685261/1

BY: Committee on Ways and Means

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 1214
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike “High”; in the same line, after “Policy” insert “Study”; strike beginning with “each” in line 3 down through “entities” in line 11 and substitute “the State Department of Education to study the establishment of a policy on maximum student enrollment in public schools on or before a certain date; requiring the Department to submit a certain report on or before a certain date to the General Assembly; providing for the termination of this Act”; in line 11, after “to” insert “a study of”; in line 12, strike “high”; and strike in their entirety lines 13 through 17, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, in line 19, strike “the Laws of Maryland read as follows”.

On pages 1 through 3, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 20 on page 1 through line 21 on page 3, inclusive, and substitute:

“(a) On or before December 31, 2013, the State Department of Education shall study:

(1) Whether counties currently have policies regarding the size of schools, including high schools, middle schools, elementary schools, and alternative schools;

(2) Best practices in other states regarding school size;

(3) The educational and extracurricular impacts of school size;

(Over)

(4) What factors contribute to large school sizes and how might the State mitigate those factors;

(5) What would be the ideal size for high schools, middle schools, elementary schools, and alternative schools;

(6) What process might help ensure appropriate public input into the establishment of any school size standard or guideline;

(7) Whether models exist for the creation of smaller schools, including the subdivision of existing schools into multiple administrative units within the same campus, which share common areas such as cafeterias and sports fields;

(8) The potential impacts on the school construction program of establishing stricter policies regarding smaller schools;

(9) The costs and impacts on zoning of building new schools and how those costs can be reduced;

(10) School boundaries and attendance areas and how those affect school size; and

(11) Whether opportunities are available for alternative methods to create space for smaller schools, including the purchase and renovation of existing buildings, where available, and including suburban and urban school design.

(b) On or before December 31, 2013, the State Department of Education shall submit a report to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on whether the State should establish a maximum school size policy or guideline or require local school systems to establish a maximum school size policy or guideline for each jurisdiction.”.

On page 3, in line 23, after the period insert “It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of June 30, 2015, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.