

HOUSE BILL 207

F1

(3lr0690)

ENROLLED BILL

— *Ways and Means/Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs* —

Introduced by **Delegates Luedtke, Ivey, Kaiser, Myers, and A. Washington**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – ~~Chronically Absent~~ Truant Students**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring county boards of education to develop a system of
4 intervention for ~~chronically absent~~ truant students; defining ~~certain terms a~~
5 certain term; providing that this Act does not prohibit a county board from
6 taking certain actions; and generally relating to ~~chronically absent~~ truant
7 students.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Education

10 Section 7–302.2

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



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 **7-302.2.**

5 (A) ~~(1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE~~
6 ~~MEANINGS INDICATED.~~

7 ~~(2) “CHRONICALLY, “CHRONICALLY ABSENT *TRUANT* STUDENT”~~
8 ~~MEANS A STUDENT WHO:~~

9 ~~(1) WHO IS UNLAWFULLY UNLAWFULLY ABSENT FROM SCHOOL~~
10 ~~FOR MORE THAN 10% OF THE SCHOOL DAYS IN ANY GIVEN QUARTER,~~
11 ~~SEMESTER, OR ACADEMIC YEAR.~~

12 ~~(3) “UNLAWFUL ABSENCE” HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN~~
13 ~~MORE THAN:~~

14 ~~(I) 8 DAYS IN ANY QUARTER;~~

15 ~~(II) 15 DAYS IN ANY SEMESTER; OR~~

16 ~~(III) 20 DAYS IN A SCHOOL YEAR; AND~~

17 ~~(2) WHOSE ABSENCES FOR PURPOSES OF ITEM (1) OF THIS~~
18 ~~SUBSECTION ARE UNLAWFUL ABSENCES WITHIN THE MEANING OF COMAR~~
19 ~~13A.08.01.03 AND 13A.08.01.04 AS DEFINED BY REGULATION.~~

20 (B) EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL DEVELOP A SYSTEM OF ACTIVE
21 INTERVENTION FOR ~~STUDENTS WHO ARE CHRONICALLY ABSENT *TRUANT* FROM~~
22 ~~SCHOOL STUDENTS.~~

23 ~~(C) EACH COUNTY BOARD’S SYSTEM OF INTERVENTION FOR~~
24 ~~CHRONICALLY ABSENT STUDENTS SHALL INCLUDE:~~

25 ~~(1) A ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS BY QUALIFIED SCHOOL SYSTEM~~
26 ~~PERSONNEL TO IDENTIFY WHAT FACTORS ARE LEADING TO A STUDENT’S~~
27 ~~ABSENCES AND TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO ADDRESS THOSE FACTORS; AND~~

28 ~~(2) IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY SCHOOL SYSTEM PERSONNEL,~~
29 ~~REFERRALS TO SOCIAL SERVICE OR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS WHO MIGHT BE~~
30 ~~ABLE TO ADDRESS THE ROOT CAUSES OF A STUDENT’S ABSENCES.~~

1 ~~(D) (1) EACH COUNTY BOARD'S SYSTEM OF INTERVENTION FOR~~
2 ~~CHRONICALLY ABSENT STUDENTS SHALL REQUIRE INTERACTION BETWEEN~~
3 ~~SCHOOL SYSTEM PERSONNEL, THE STUDENT, AND THE STUDENT'S PARENTS OR~~
4 ~~GUARDIAN TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF REGULAR ATTENDANCE AND~~
5 ~~STRATEGIES FOR ENSURING REGULAR ATTENDANCE.~~

6 ~~(2) THIS INTERACTION MAY INCLUDE COUNSELING OR PARENT~~
7 ~~EDUCATION CLASSES.~~

8 ~~(E) (C) (1) ANY EACH CHRONICALLY ABSENT TRUANT STUDENT~~
9 ~~ATTENDING KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 12TH GRADE WHO IS UNLAWFULLY~~
10 ~~ABSENT MORE THAN 10% OF THE SCHOOL DAYS IN ANY GIVEN QUARTER,~~
11 ~~SEMESTER, OR ACADEMIC YEAR SHALL IMMEDIATELY BE REFERRED TO THE~~
12 ~~COUNTY BOARD'S SYSTEM OF ACTIVE INTERVENTION FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE~~
13 ~~CHRONICALLY ABSENT FROM SCHOOL DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SECTION.~~

14 ~~(2) THE COUNTY BOARD MAY INTERVENE AT A LOWER LEVEL OF~~
15 ~~ABSENCES.~~

16 ~~(2) THIS SECTION DOES NOT PROHIBIT A COUNTY BOARD FROM~~
17 ~~INTERVENING IN THE CASE OF A STUDENT WHO IS FREQUENTLY ABSENT FROM~~
18 ~~SCHOOL BUT WHO IS NOT A CHRONICALLY ABSENT STUDENT FOR BOTH LAWFUL~~
19 ~~AND UNLAWFUL PURPOSES, BUT IS NOT A TRUANT STUDENT.~~

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 October 1, 2013.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.