

HOUSE BILL 532

F1

3lr2517
CF SB 537

By: ~~Delegates Serafini, Afzali, Fisher, Frank, Krebs, Myers, and Stocksdale~~
Stocksdale, F. Turner, and Walker

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2013

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 14, 2013

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 ~~State Board of Education – Online Courses – Graduation Requirement~~
3 Education – Maryland Advisory Council for Virtual Learning –
4 Responsibilities

5 FOR the purpose of ~~requiring a student to complete an online course to graduate from~~
6 ~~high school, beginning with students entering a certain grade in a certain school~~
7 ~~year; requiring that certain online courses be approved by the State Department~~
8 ~~of Education or the local county board of education; and generally relating to~~
9 ~~high school graduation requirements in the State~~ establishing additional
10 responsibilities for the Maryland Advisory Council for Virtual Learning;
11 requiring the Advisory Council to study and make recommendations regarding
12 certain matters; requiring the Advisory Council to report certain findings and
13 recommendations to the State Superintendent of Education and certain
14 committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for
15 the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Maryland Advisory
16 Council for Virtual Learning.

17 ~~BY adding to~~
18 ~~Article – Education~~
19 ~~Section 7-205.1~~
20 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
21 ~~(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.



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 ~~7-205.1.~~

5 ~~(A) BEGINNING WITH STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 9 IN THE 2015-2016~~
6 ~~SCHOOL YEAR, TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL A STUDENT SHALL~~
7 ~~COMPLETE AN ONLINE COURSE.~~

8 ~~(B) THE COURSE REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION~~
9 ~~SHALL BE AN ONLINE COURSE APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OR A COUNTY~~
10 ~~BOARD AS PROVIDED UNDER § 7-1002 OF THIS TITLE.~~

11 (a) The Maryland Advisory Council for Virtual Learning established under
12 Title 7, Subtitle 10B of the Education Article shall study:

13 (1) the human, technological, financial, and regulatory resources
14 needed to support a requirement that a student complete a virtual course or a course
15 that blends digital content with traditional classroom instruction to graduate from
16 high school;

17 (2) the feasibility of establishing virtual schools in the State;

18 (3) the feasibility of partnering with institutions of higher education in
19 the State to develop resources to support virtual learning;

20 (4) the experiences of other states in establishing virtual and blended
21 schools; and

22 (5) any issues relating to virtual learning quality standards and
23 accessibility.

24 (b) On or before December 1, 2013, the Maryland Advisory Council for
25 Virtual Learning shall report its findings and recommendations on the issues studied
26 under subsection (a) of this section to the State Superintendent of Education and, in
27 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the House Committee on
28 Ways and Means and the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
29 Committee.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
31 October June 1, 2013. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of
32 May 31, 2014, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall
33 be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.