

Chapter 249

**(House Bill 55)**

AN ACT concerning

**Baltimore County – Education – WhyTry Program**

FOR the purpose of establishing the WhyTry Program in Baltimore County; specifying the purpose of the Program; requiring the Baltimore County Board of Education to develop and implement the Program; requiring the Board of Education to select certain schools to participate in the Program; requiring the Program to include certain teachers who have received certain training; defining a certain term; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to establishing the WhyTry Program in Baltimore County.

BY adding to

Article – Education

Section 7–208

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

**Article – Education**

**7–208.**

**(A) IN THIS SECTION, “PROGRAM” MEANS THE WHYTRY PROGRAM IN BALTIMORE COUNTY.**

**(B) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IN BALTIMORE COUNTY.**

**(C) THERE IS A WHYTRY PROGRAM IN BALTIMORE COUNTY.**

**(D) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO ASSIST A STUDENT WITH AN UNWEIGHTED GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF LESS THAN 2.0 PER QUARTER AND AN ATTENDANCE RATE OF LESS THAN 94% OF THE REQUIRED DAYS OF SCHOOL ATTENDANCE TO BECOME A MORE EFFECTIVE STUDENT AS EVIDENCED BY AN UNWEIGHTED GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF 2.5 OR HIGHER PER QUARTER WITHOUT A LETTER GRADE OF D OR E.**

**(E) THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM.**

**(F) THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL SELECT TWO MIDDLE SCHOOLS THAT, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, REASONABLY REFLECT THE GEOGRAPHIC, RACIAL, ETHNIC, CULTURAL, AND GENDER DIVERSITY OF THE MIDDLE SCHOOL POPULATION IN THE COUNTY IN EACH OF THE SCHOOL SYSTEM'S FIVE GEOGRAPHIC AREAS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.**

**(G) THE PROGRAM SHALL INCLUDE A MINIMUM OF TWO TEACHERS WHO HAVE RECEIVED TWO LEVELS OF PROGRAM TRAINING IN EACH OF THE MIDDLE SCHOOLS SELECTED UNDER SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION.**

**(H) FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAM SHALL BE PROVIDED FROM THE EDUCATION TRUST FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER § 9-1A-30 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2016. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2018, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

**Approved by the Governor, April 26, 2016.**