

HOUSE BILL 1406

F1

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CF SB 1173

By: **Delegates Clippinger, Anderson, Branch, Carter, Conaway, Glenn, Hammen, Hayes, Haynes, Lierman, McCray, McIntosh, Oaks, B. Robinson, Rosenberg, and M. Washington**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2016

Assigned to: Economic Matters and Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 17, 2016

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 ~~Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation—Adult Education—Adult High~~
3 ~~Schools~~
4 Task Force to Study the Adult High School Concept

5 FOR the purpose of ~~repealing certain provisions of law relating to the establishment and~~
6 ~~maintenance of certain schools for adults by county boards of education; requiring~~
7 ~~the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, in consultation with the State~~
8 ~~Department of Education, by regulation and on or before a certain date, to develop~~
9 ~~standards for the establishment of adult high schools; providing for the content of~~
10 ~~certain standards; prohibiting the Department from requiring public funding for~~
11 ~~approval of the establishment of adult high schools; defining a certain term; and~~
12 ~~generally relating to adult high schools and the Department of Labor, Licensing, and~~
13 ~~Regulation~~ establishing the Task Force to Study the Adult High School Concept;
14 providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a
15 member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the
16 reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make
17 recommendations regarding certain matters relating to the adult high school
18 concept; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the
19 presiding officers of the General Assembly and certain committees of the General
20 Assembly on or before certain dates; providing for the termination of this Act; and
21 generally relating to the Task Force to Study the Adult High School Concept.

22 ~~BY repealing~~

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 ~~Article—Labor and Employment~~
 2 ~~Section 11-805~~
 3 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
 4 ~~(2008 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)~~

5 ~~BY adding to~~
 6 ~~Article—Labor and Employment~~
 7 ~~Section 11-805~~
 8 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
 9 ~~(2008 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)~~

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

12 ~~**Article—Labor and Employment**~~

13 ~~11-805.~~

14 ~~(a) In accordance with the applicable rules and regulations of the Department,~~
 15 ~~each county board of education may establish and maintain day and evening schools for~~
 16 ~~adults.~~

17 ~~(b) The purpose of these schools for adults is to provide:~~

18 ~~(1) a general program of continuing education for the improvement of the~~
 19 ~~civic, occupational, and general intelligence of adults; and~~

20 ~~(2) programs to enable adults to make a wise use of their leisure time.~~

21 ~~(c) A full-time student, at the student's own expense, may register for adult~~
 22 ~~education courses, if space is available, and if that student secures the written permission~~
 23 ~~of the superintendent of schools, or the superintendent's designee, of the county in which~~
 24 ~~the student registers.]~~

25 ~~11-805.~~

26 ~~(A) IN THIS SECTION, "ADULT EDUCATION" MEANS ACADEMIC~~
 27 ~~INSTRUCTION AND EDUCATION SERVICES BELOW THE POSTSECONDARY LEVEL FOR~~
 28 ~~INDIVIDUALS:~~

29 ~~(1) WHO ARE AT LEAST 16 YEARS OLD;~~

30 ~~(2) WHO ARE NOT ENROLLED OR REQUIRED TO BE ENROLLED IN HIGH~~
 31 ~~SCHOOL UNDER § 7-301 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE; AND~~

32 ~~(3) WHO:~~

1 ~~(I) ARE BASIC SKILLS DEFICIENT;~~

2 ~~(II) DO NOT HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR ITS~~
3 ~~RECOGNIZED EQUIVALENT AND HAVE NOT ACHIEVED AN EQUIVALENT LEVEL OF~~
4 ~~EDUCATION; OR~~

5 ~~(III) ARE ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS.~~

6 ~~(B) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2016, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL, IN~~
7 ~~CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, BY REGULATION,~~
8 ~~DEVELOP STANDARDS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ADULT HIGH SCHOOLS.~~

9 ~~(C) THE STANDARDS DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION~~
10 ~~SHALL INCLUDE:~~

11 ~~(1) QUALIFICATIONS FOR A NONPROFIT WORKFORCE TRAINING~~
12 ~~PROVIDER OR OTHER EDUCATIONAL PROVIDER TO OPERATE AN ADULT HIGH~~
13 ~~SCHOOL;~~

14 ~~(2) A REQUIREMENT TO USE AN ADULT EDUCATION CURRICULUM AND~~
15 ~~CURRICULUM-ALIGNED ASSESSMENTS APPROVED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF~~
16 ~~EDUCATION;~~

17 ~~(3) A REQUIREMENT TO AWARD A MARYLAND HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA~~
18 ~~OR A DIPLOMA AWARDED BY A NATIONAL EXTERNAL DIPLOMA PROGRAM FOR~~
19 ~~SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE REQUIRED CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENTS;~~
20 ~~AND~~

21 ~~(4) A REQUIREMENT FOR CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE~~
22 ~~DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BEFORE APPROVAL OF AN ADULT HIGH SCHOOL.~~

23 ~~(D) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT REQUIRE PUBLIC FUNDING FOR APPROVAL~~
24 ~~OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ADULT HIGH SCHOOLS.~~

25 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Adult High School Concept.

26 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

27 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
28 the Senate;

29 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the
30 House;

1 (3) the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, or the Secretary's
2 designee;

3 (4) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the State Superintendent's
4 designee;

5 (5) a representative of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council, appointed by
6 the Executive Director of the Council;

7 (6) a representative of the Job Opportunity Task Force, appointed by the
8 Executive Director of the Task Force;

9 (7) a representative of the Governor's Workforce Investment Board,
10 appointed by the Governor;

11 (8) a representative of the Maryland Adult Learning Advisory Council,
12 appointed by the Chair of the Council;

13 (9) a representative of the Maryland Association of Adult and Community
14 Education, appointed by the President of the Board of Directors of the Association;

15 (10) a representative of the Montgomery Coalition for Adult English
16 Literacy, appointed by the Executive Director of the Coalition;

17 (11) one member of the Workforce Development Committee of the
18 Opportunity Collaborative, appointed by the Co-Chairs of the Collaborative;

19 (12) one representative of a local education agency, appointed by the
20 Executive Director of the Maryland Association of the Boards of Education;

21 (13) a superintendent of a local public school system in the State, appointed
22 by the Executive Director of the Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland;

23 (14) a representative of the Baltimore Workforce Funders Collaborative,
24 appointed by the Director of the Collaborative;

25 (15) two representatives of adult education providers, appointed by the
26 Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; and

27 (16) a representative of a community college, appointed by the Maryland
28 Association of Community Colleges.

29 (c) The chair of the Task Force shall be selected by a majority vote of the members
30 of the Task Force.

31 (d) The Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation and the State
32 Department of Education shall provide staff for the Task Force.

1 (e) A member of the Task Force:

2 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

3 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
4 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

5 (f) The Task Force shall:

6 (1) study, and identify best practices with regard to, the following issues:

7 (i) eligibility requirements and financial stability and capacity
8 standards for adult high school operators;

9 (ii) accreditation of adult high school operators, teachers, and
10 instructors, including the appropriate accrediting agencies, standards for accreditation,
11 and compliance and enforcement of standards;

12 (iii) adult high school operator reporting requirements and data
13 collection, including effectiveness criteria that consider matriculation rates, degree
14 attainment, types of credit, certification, and degrees awarded, alternative high school
15 diplomas, GED, or External Diploma Program, and job placement;

16 (iv) matriculation requirements, including admission criteria and
17 identification of the entity that will certify successful completion of an adult high school
18 program, admission policy, student residency requirements, student transfers from the
19 secondary education system, and a process for recruiting and selecting students;

20 (v) curriculum content and requirements, including graduation
21 credits and requirements, identification of the curriculum development entity, programs of
22 study, course length and intensity requirements, the appropriate provisions of adult
23 learner and skills services and services to underserved special needs populations and
24 English language learners, and standards for flexibility and innovation;

25 (vi) funding requirements and options, including various models and
26 model sustainability, public funding options, tuition-based models, and financial aid
27 options; and

28 (vii) any other issues relevant to the development of the adult high
29 school concept as determined by the Task Force, including limits on the numbers of adult
30 high schools, impact of wraparound services, requirements for physical student presence at
31 school, and online services; and

32 (2) make recommendations regarding enabling legislation and regulations
33 for the establishment and regulation of adult high schools.

1 (g) (1) On or before December 15, 2016, the Task Force shall submit an interim
 2 report on its findings and recommendations, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State
 3 Government Article, to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Delegates,
 4 the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, the House
 5 Committee on Ways and Means, and the House Economic Matters Committee of the
 6 General Assembly.

7 (2) On or before June 30, 2017, the Task Force shall submit a final report
 8 on its findings and recommendations, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government
 9 Article, to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Delegates, the Senate
 10 Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, the House Committee on Ways
 11 and Means, and the House Economic Matters Committee of the General Assembly.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
 13 1, 2016. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2017,
 14 with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and
 15 of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.