

SENATE BILL 998

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8lr2895

By: **Senators Peters, Benson, Currie, Feldman, Guzzone, King, Madaleno, ~~and Muse Muse, and Nathan-Pulliam~~**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2018

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 15, 2018

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Department of Education – REAL School Gardens Pilot Program –**
3 **Established**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the REAL School Gardens Pilot Program; specifying the
5 purpose of the Program; requiring certain ~~counties~~ jurisdictions to implement the
6 Program; requiring the State Department of Education to administer the Program
7 in coordination with REAL School Gardens; requiring the Governor's proposed
8 budget for a certain fiscal year to appropriate a certain amount to the Department
9 to be used only for the Program; requiring the Department to obtain the services of
10 an independent third party to conduct a certain review on or before a certain date;
11 requiring the Department to submit the results of the review to the Governor and
12 the General Assembly on or before a certain date; requiring the Department, in
13 coordination with REAL School Gardens, to prepare a certain progress report for
14 certain years of the Program; specifying the contents of the progress report; requiring
15 the Department to submit the progress report to the Governor and the General
16 Assembly on or before certain dates; defining a certain term; providing for the
17 termination of this Act; and generally relating to the REAL School Gardens Pilot
18 Program.

19 BY adding to
20 Article – Education
21 Section 7–125
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 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 MARYLAND,
2 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

3 **Article – Education**

4 **7–125.**

5 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “PROGRAM” MEANS THE REAL SCHOOL GARDENS
6 PILOT PROGRAM.

7 (B) THERE IS A REAL SCHOOL GARDENS PILOT PROGRAM.

8 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO:

9 (1) DESIGN AND BUILD CUSTOM OUTDOOR CLASSROOMS AT TITLE I
10 PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS; AND

11 (2) TRAIN TEACHERS IN THE USE OF OUTDOOR CLASSROOMS.

12 (D) THE PROGRAM SHALL BE IMPLEMENTED IN:

13 (1) ~~ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY~~ BALTIMORE CITY;

14 (2) HOWARD COUNTY;

15 (3) MONTGOMERY COUNTY; AND

16 (4) PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY.

17 (E) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM IN
18 COORDINATION WITH REAL SCHOOL GARDENS.

19 (F) THE GOVERNOR’S PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020 SHALL
20 APPROPRIATE \$200,000 TO THE DEPARTMENT TO BE USED ONLY FOR THE
21 PROGRAM.

22 (G) (1) ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, 2020, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL OBTAIN
23 THE SERVICES OF AN INDEPENDENT THIRD PARTY TO REVIEW THE EFFECTIVENESS
24 AND SUCCESS OF THE FIRST YEAR OF THE PROGRAM.

25 (2) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2020, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
26 SUBMIT THE RESULTS OF THE REVIEW REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS
27 SUBSECTION TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2–1246 OF THE
28 STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

1 **(H) (1) THE DEPARTMENT, IN COORDINATION WITH REAL SCHOOL**
2 **GARDENS, SHALL PREPARE A PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE SECOND AND THIRD**
3 **YEARS OF THE PROGRAM.**

4 **(2) THE PROGRESS REPORT REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF**
5 **THIS SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF:**

6 **(I) THE PROGRAM'S EXPENDITURES FOR THE PREVIOUS**
7 **FISCAL YEAR;**

8 **(II) THE PROGRAM'S TOTAL EXPENDITURES TO DATE;**

9 **(III) THE PROGRAM'S IMPACT ON STUDENT LEARNING; AND**

10 **(IV) THE EFFECTIVENESS OF TEACHERS' USE OF OUTDOOR**
11 **CLASSROOMS.**

12 **(3) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2021, AND DECEMBER 31, 2022,**
13 **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT THE PROGRESS REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND,**
14 **IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE**
15 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
17 1, 2018. It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of June 30, 2023,
18 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and
19 of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.