

## Chapter 662

**(House Bill 753)**

AN ACT concerning

**Primary and Secondary Schools – Bus Driver Wages – Study**

FOR the purpose of requiring the ~~Governor's Workforce Development Board Department of Transportation, in consultation with the State Department of Education~~ *Governor's Workforce Development Board*, on or before a certain date, to evaluate, study, and identify certain issues related to wages paid to certain bus drivers and report its findings to the governing body of each county and Baltimore City, each county board of education, including Baltimore City, the Governor, and the General Assembly; and generally relating to wages for bus drivers that serve primary and secondary schools.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
That:

(a) In this section, "bus driver" means an individual employed to drive a bus that serves a primary or secondary school in the State, including an individual who is employed by:

- (1) a county board of education, including Baltimore City;
- (2) a person that contracts with a local school system to provide bus driving services at a public or private school in the State; or
- (3) a private primary or secondary school in the State.

(b) On or before ~~July~~ *September* 1, 2022, the ~~Governor's Workforce Development Board Department of Transportation, in consultation with the State Department of Education,~~ *Governor's Workforce Development Board* shall:

- (1) evaluate the possibility of paying prevailing wage rates, which is the estimated hourly rate of wages paid in the locality as determined by the ~~Governor's Workforce Development Board Department of Transportation, in consultation with the State Department of Education,~~ *Governor's Workforce Development Board* to bus drivers;
- (2) study and identify the wages that must be paid *and benefits that must be provided* to bus drivers to ensure that the vacancy rate for bus drivers is below 2% of the total number of bus drivers needed to serve primary and secondary schools in the State; ~~and~~

(3) in conducting the evaluation, study, and identification under items (1) and (2) of this subsection, consider regional variation in prevailing wages paid to bus drivers in the State; and

~~(3)~~ (4) report the findings under items (1) and (2) of this subsection to the governing body of each county and Baltimore City, each county board of education, including Baltimore City, the Governor, and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted. It shall remain effective through June 30, 2023, and, at the end of June 30, 2023, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

**Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 29, 2022.**