

HOUSE BILL 976

F1
HB 1200/24 – APP

6lr1137
CF SB 712

By: **Delegates Rose, Miller, Anderson, Arentz, Arikan, Baker, Beauchamp, Bouchat, Buckel, Ciliberti, Griffith, Hartman, Hinebaugh, Hornberger, Howard, Hutchinson, Jacobs, Kipke, R. Long, Mangione, McComas, Metzgar, T. Morgan, Nkongolo, Pippy, Reilly, Schmidt, Tomlinson, Valentine, and Wivell**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Primary and Secondary Education – Funding Accuracy and Full-Time**
3 **Equivalent Enrollment Count – Alterations and Report**
4 **(Education Funding Accuracy Act)**

5 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “full-time equivalent enrollment” in the
6 calculation for State education aid to include the average number of students
7 enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12 on certain days of the prior school year;
8 requiring the State Department of Education to publish online and submit a certain
9 report to certain standing committees of the General Assembly; and generally
10 relating to the calculation of State aid for primary and secondary education.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
12 Article – Education
13 Section 5–201(a), (e), (f), and (t)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
17 Article – Education
18 Section 5–201(g)
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

21 BY adding to
22 Article – Education
23 Section 5–244
24 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

5–201.

(a) In this subtitle, except as otherwise provided, the following words have the meanings indicated.

(e) “Enrollment count” means the greater of:

(1) The full–time equivalent enrollment; or

(2) The 3–year moving average enrollment.

(f) “Foundation program” means the product of the annual per pupil foundation amount and a county’s enrollment count.

(g) “Full–time equivalent enrollment” means the sum of:

(1) The **AVERAGE** number of students enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12 or their equivalent in regular day school programs on September 30 **AND MAY 31** of the prior school year;

(2) The number of full–time equivalent students, as determined by a regulation of the Department, enrolled in evening high school programs during the prior school year; and

(3) The number of P–TECH students, as provided in § 7–1804(b) of this article.

(t) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, “3–year moving average enrollment” means the average of the full–time equivalent enrollment in the 3 prior school years.

(2) If the 3 prior school years includes the 2020–2021 school year, “3–year moving average enrollment” means:

(i) The sum of the full–time equivalent enrollment for the 4 prior school years minus the 2020–2021 school year full–time equivalent enrollment; divided by

(ii) Three.

5–244.

1 **ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2026, AND EACH DECEMBER 31 THEREAFTER,**
2 **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PUBLISH ON ITS WEBSITE AND SUBMIT TO THE SENATE**
3 **BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS**
4 **COMMITTEE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT**
5 **ARTICLE, A REPORT ON:**

6 **(1) THE ENROLLMENT COUNT USED TO CALCULATE FULL-TIME**
7 **EQUIVALENT ENROLLMENT, DISAGGREGATED BY COUNTY;**

8 **(2) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN EACH COUNTY IN EACH**
9 **ENROLLMENT CATEGORY, INCLUDING “WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN”;**

10 **(3) THE FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT ENROLLMENT NUMBER USED TO**
11 **CALCULATE FUNDING FOR THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR; AND**

12 **(4) EACH COUNTY’S ALLOCATION OF PER PUPIL STATE AND LOCAL**
13 **EDUCATION FUNDING.**

14 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,** That this Act shall take effect July
15 1, 2026, and shall be applicable to the calculation of education funding for fiscal years
16 beginning after June 30, 2027.