



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

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TO: Members of the Maryland State Board of Education
FROM: Nancy S. Grasmick *Nancy*
RE: Legislative Update
DATE: March 24, 2009

PURPOSE

The purpose of this item is to provide a legislative update and status report of issues relative to education legislation that are currently before the 2009 General Assembly. Please find attached a synopsis of several pieces of significant legislation that has been introduced since your last State Board meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I have asked Ms. Renee Spence to briefly update the members of the State Board of Education on the outcomes of the significant legislation that you have followed during the 2009 session, as well as to review any new pending legislation with you.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Ms. Renee Spence at 410-767-0462. As always, thank you for your continuous help and support.

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Attachments

Maryland State Board of Education
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Synopsis 4

Bill #	Bills
HB 1329	State Aid for Education - Full-Time Equivalent Enrollment - Calculation Altering the definition of "full-time equivalent enrollment" in the calculation of specified State aid for education.
HB 1396	Higher Education - Student Financial Assistance - Dually Enrolled Students Expanding eligibility in the Part-Time Grant Program to include specified students who are dually enrolled in specified secondary schools in the State and specified institutions of higher education; providing that a recipient of a specified part-time grant is not required to receive specified academic credit under specified circumstances; authorizing an institution of higher education to use up to a specified amount of Part-Time Grant Program funds for specified purposes; etc.
HB 1502	Prince George's County - Financial Literacy Curriculum Content Requiring the Prince George's County Board of Education to develop curriculum content for a course in financial literacy; requiring the curriculum content to include instruction in choosing a career, earning an income, saving and investing money, credit, and budgeting; and requiring students to complete a course in financial literacy in order to graduate from high school in Prince George's County.
HB 1543	Virtual Schools Authorizing the State Department of Education or a county board of education to establish a virtual school in the State; establishing that a virtual school is a public school subject to applicable laws and regulations; requiring a virtual school to provide specified curricular programs to the students of the virtual school; requiring a virtual school to provide specified materials and access to technology to the parent or guardian of a student enrolled in the virtual school; etc.
HB 1549	Thornton Formula - Evaluation Requiring the State Department of Education to examine and evaluate specified education funding formulas; and requiring the Department to submit a preliminary report on or before July 1, 2009, and a final report on or before October 1, 2009, to the Governor and the General Assembly.
HB 1558	Student Stigma Act Changing references to "emotional disturbance" to "emotional or behavioral disability"; providing that specified documents may not be used until the use of specified other documents; providing for the intent of the Act; etc.
SB 990	Reporting Requirement - Class Size Requiring the State Department of Education to develop a uniform data collection method to track the number of students who regularly participate in a classroom teacher's class by the beginning of the 2012-2013 academic year; requiring the method to reflect the number of these students in a classroom teacher's class as of September 30 of each year; requiring each county board of education to implement the method and report the results to the Department on or before December 1 of each year; etc.

SB 1032	Funding Formula to Expand K-12 Online Education Requiring the State Board of Education to set fees for online courses and services and payment of online courses and services of the Maryland Virtual Learning Opportunities Program in a specified manner for Program course enrollees who are public school students and individuals not enrolled in public schools; requiring specified county boards of education to reimburse the Program a specified amount under specified circumstances; etc.
SB 1049	Domestic Violence - Tween/Teen Dating Violence Education and Awareness Requiring the State Board of Education to develop and implement in the public schools a program to educate students about dating violence; requiring the program to include education on services provided to victims of dating violence; altering the definition of "victim of domestic violence" for purposes of specified provisions of law; and requiring the Governor annually to proclaim the second week in October "Statewide Tween/Teen Dating Violence Education and Awareness Week".