

(b) The Office of the Attorney General shall:

(1) determine whether any conduct identified in MIA No: 2003-02-032 violates any provision of federal or State civil, criminal, or administrative law, other than those provisions reviewed by the Maryland Insurance Commissioner under subsection (a)(1) of this section; and

(2) report, on or before September 1, 2003, to the Governor, and in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on the determinations made, if any, under item (1) of this subsection, and on any changes to State law that need to be made to ensure that the public interest is protected.

SECTION 13. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, if any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason in a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or any other application of this Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and for this purpose the provisions of this Act are declared severable.

SECTION 14. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take effect June 1, 2003. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 3 months and, at the end of August 31, 2005, with no further action required by the General Assembly, Section 2 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

SECTION 15. 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, except as provided in Section 14 of this Act, shall take effect from the date it is enacted.

Approved May 22, 2003.

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**CHAPTER 358**

**(Senate Bill 75)**

AN ACT concerning

**Public Charter School Act of 2003**

FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland Public Charter School Program; adding a certain definition; establishing certain authority in certain boards; specifying certain charter school application requirements; prohibiting a ~~county board~~ public chartering authority from granting a charter to certain schools; requiring a county board to review an application to establish a charter school and render a decision within a certain time period; establishing a certain appeals process; requiring the State Board of Education to render a certain decision within a certain time period; authorizing the State Board of Education to direct a county board to grant a charter under certain circumstances and