

school regularly as defined in section 131 of this sub-title during such consecutive period of each year (in no case less than four months) as shall be prescribed by the board of school commissioners of the county in which the said child may reside, unless it can be shown that such a child is elsewhere receiving regularly thorough instruction during said period in the studies usually taught in the public schools of the county to children of the same age; provided that the superintendent or principal of any school or person or persons duly authorized by such superintendent or principal may excuse cases of necessary absence among its enrolled pupils; and provided further, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to children whose mental or physical condition is such as to render instruction above described inexpedient or impracticable. Every person having under his control a child between eight and fourteen years of age shall cause such child to attend school or receive instructions as required by this section. Children over fourteen years of age and under the age of sixteen years, and every person having under his control such a child shall be subject to the requirements of this section, unless such children are regularly and lawfully employed to labor at home or elsewhere; provided, however, that this section shall not apply to Baltimore City; provided further, that this section shall apply only in those counties where the Board of County School Commissioners shall approve the same and appoint an attendance officer or attendance officers for its enforcement as provided in this act.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That sections 132, 133, 134, 135 and 136 of Chapter 269 of the Acts of Assembly of 1902 be and they are hereby repealed.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That all offenses committed against and all prosecutions begun under the provisions of Chapter 269 of the Act of Assembly of 1902 prior to August 1st, 1912, may and shall be prosecuted and punished under the provisions of said Chapter 269 of the Acts of 1902. Nothing in this act shall be taken to apply to Howard, Kent, Anne Arundel, Worcester, St. Mary's and Somerset counties, but the existing laws which this act undertakes to repeal and re-enact shall remain in force as far as they now apply to the said Howard, Kent, Anne Arundel, Worcester, St. Mary's and Somerset counties.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That this act shall take effect on August 1, 1912.

Approved April 8, 1912.