

public or private schools shall attend some school or classes for the deaf or blind for eight months, or during the scholastic year, unless it can be shown that the child is elsewhere receiving regularly thorough instruction during the said period, in studies usually taught in the said public schools to children of the same age; provided, that the superintendent or principal of any school for the deaf or blind, 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 a child whose physical condition is such as to render its instruction, as above described, inexpedient or impracticable. Every person having under his or her control such a child between six and eighteen years of age shall cause such a child to attend school or receive instructions as required by this section.

226. Any person who induces or attempts to induce any child who by reason of any partial or total deafness or partial or total blindness is unable to progress satisfactorily in ordinary public or private schools, to absent himself or herself unlawfully from school, or employs or harbors any such child absent unlawfully from school, while said school is in session, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, upon conviction thereof before a justice of the peace, be fined a sum not exceeding Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each offense. The State's Attorney in the county in which such child resides, or in Baltimore City if such child resides therein, shall be charged with the enforcement of this section. It shall be the duty of the State's Attorney, before proceeding to enforce the provisions of this section to have such child examined by two physicians, one of whom shall be a specialist in the field of eye, ear and throat, to determine whether such child is unable to progress satisfactorily on account of its partial blindness or deafness or from some other cause and if the certificate of said doctor shall indicate that the failure to progress satisfactorily is due to deafness or partial deafness or blindness or partial blindness, then the provisions of this section and Section 223 shall apply; the costs of said medical examinations shall be borne by the several counties or the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City, as the case may be.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1947.

Approved May 7, 1947.