Approved May 29, 1990.

CHAPTER 476

(Senate Bill 558)

AN ACT concerning

Handicapped Individuals - Extended Year Programs

FOR the purpose of requiring each county board of education to notify parents <u>or</u> <u>guardians</u> of handicapped children of the availability of extended year programs under certain circumstances.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Education

Section 8-402

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1989 Replacement Volume and 1989 Supplement)

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

Article - Education

8-402.

- (a) The State and each county shall:
- (1) [make] MAKE free educational programs available to each handicapped child, including a child who is severely handicapped, as provided by this subtitle; AND
- (2) NOTIFY THE PARENTS <u>OR GUARDIANS</u> OF EACH HANDICAPPED CHILD OF THE AVAILABILITY OF EXTENDED YEAR PROGRAMS IF:
- (I) INTERRUPTION OF THE CHILD'S ACCESS TO EDUCATIONAL SERVICES WOULD LEAD TO REGRESSION IN THE CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT LEVEL; AND
- (II) THE REGRESSION WOULD BE COMPOUNDED BY THE CHILD'S LIMITED CAPACITY TO RECOUP LOST SKILLS THE CHILD IS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.
- (b) Appropriate special educational services are to begin as soon as a child can benefit from them, whether or not he is of regular school age.