

CHAPTER 139

(House Bill 64)

AN ACT to repeal Section 23 of Article 77 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Public Education," subtitle "State Board of Education," and to enact new Section 23 in lieu thereof, to stand in the place of the section repealed, establishing a school construction planning service to advise local Boards of Education in construction plans; , AND RELATING GENERALLY TO SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION.

WHEREAS, The provision of an adequate education is a responsibility shared by the State and by local governments to include the provision of school housing in sufficient quantity and of acceptable quality to serve the educational program of the community being served; and

WHEREAS, The Counties and the City of Baltimore have been building annually in excess of 100 new buildings or additions to existing buildings expending in excess of sixty million dollars (\$60,000,000) to construct and equip these educational facilities; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 23 of Article 77 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Public Education", subtitle "State Board of Education", be and is hereby repealed and new Section 23 is hereby enacted in lieu thereof to stand in the place of the Section so repealed. , AND TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

23.

(a) *The State Board of Education shall establish and maintain* ~~a~~ **AN EXPANDED School Construction Planning Service** for the purpose of reviewing the preliminary and final plans and specifications for any public school building project and the educational program which it is designed to house, and for the purpose of advising boards of education and local school building committees as to the suitability of such plans on the basis of educational effectiveness, construction and reasonable economy of cost, and for such purposes shall employ the necessary staff.

(b) *The State Board of Education, through the School Construction Planning Service* **OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**, shall arrange for the collection, publication, and distribution of information on procedures for school building committees, building methods and materials suitable for school construction and on relevant educational methods, requirements and materials, and shall furnish such information to the counties and **TO Baltimore City** **ON PROJECTS PARTIALLY FINANCED BY THE STATE FUND REQUESTED THROUGH THE PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAM.** *The Board, through the* ~~School Construction Planning Service~~ **STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**, shall from time to time inform local officials and agencies involved in school construction of its services available to them.

(c) *The State Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the State Superintendent of Schools* ~~and~~ *with the advice of the*