

CHAPTER 503
(House Bill 117)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 128 of Article 77 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969 Replacement Volume), title "Public Education," subtitle "Chapter 9. Finance and Reports," to change the definition of "pupils enrolled" under this section relating to kindergarten pupils under certain circumstances and revising the form and arrangement of the several portions of this section.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 128 of Article 77 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969 Replacement Volume), title "Public Education," subtitle "Chapter 9. Finance and Reports," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows :

128.

~~(a)~~ There is hereby established a State foundation program of public education which shall receive financial support from the State and each county and Baltimore City in accordance with the provisions of this section.

~~{(a)}~~ ~~(b)~~ (1) "Professional staff members" includes all persons employed by the various counties who are certificated by the State Superintendent of Schools or who hold equivalent status in the City of Baltimore as determined by the State Department of Education.

(2) "Allowed professional staff members" means those provided according to the terms of Section 68 of this article.

(3) "Prescribed salaries" means the salaries required in Sections 112, 57 and 68.

(4) "Pupils enrolled" shall be all pupils enrolled as of September 30 of each year in grades 1 to 12 or in special programs for children within the age limit prescribed in the law and 50 percent of the pupils enrolled in kindergartens as of September 30 *except that IN GARRETT COUNTY for any full day kindergarten pupil 100 percent (100%) shall be allowed provided the program offered for such pupils is approved by the State Superintendent of Schools.*

(5) "Adjusted assessed valuation of real property" shall be as reported by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation as of July 1 of the first completed fiscal year preceding the school year for which the calculation of State aid is to be made, plus 50 percent of new property assessed between July 1 and December 31 of such completed fiscal year ; and real property as defined herein shall include land, improvement to land, land and nonoperating property of railroads, land and nonoperating property of public utilities, and public utility operating property.

If for any county or Baltimore City, the State Department of Assessments and Taxation shall estimate that real property is assessed at less than 50 percent or at more than 56 percent, of the assessed valuation of those categories which are estimated to be under- or over-assessed, on the basis of surveys made under the provisions of Section 232(14) of Article 81 of this Code, shall be adjusted (up to