

subdivision under any bond issue obligating the credit of the State of Maryland. Beginning July 1, 1971, the State shall reimburse the counties and Baltimore City for the full costs of principal and interest payments on such debt outstanding or obligated as of June 30, 1967, except in the case of general public school construction loan debt outstanding or obligated as of June 30, 1967, for which repayment by the subdivisions shall no longer be required.

(3) The State percentage share shall be the same as that used for the BASIC current expense [incentive] aid as defined in [§129(2)] §128A of this article. This percentage should be applied to the amounts calculated in subparagraph (1) of this subsection to determine the State share.

(4) The State Department of Education shall develop and the State Board of Education shall adopt specific regulations for the administration of the school building construction aid program, including the definition of the term "pupils housed" so as to determine the number of equivalent "pupils housed" in any part of a school construction project. Such definition shall include all pupils 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 in kindergartens.

(5) The State Superintendent of Schools shall approve for each county and Baltimore City expenditures of funds for school construction under the terms of subparagraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection before including such amounts in the calculation of funds due each county and Baltimore City.

(6) The State Superintendent of Schools shall certify to the Comptroller ten (10) days before the end of July, September, November, January, March, and May, one sixth each of the sum due under this section to the county board of education of each county qualified to participate in this school building construction aid program and the City of Baltimore if it is so qualified. Thereupon the Comptroller within five days of the above said dates shall draw his warrant on the Treasurer of the State of Maryland for the respective amounts which under this section are due the boards of education of each county and due the City of Baltimore, and the Treasurer of the State of Maryland, upon receipt of said warrants shall immediately pay the amounts due to the City of Baltimore and the respective boards of education.

If for any year the appropriation for the school building construction fund is insufficient to pay all costs due therefrom, all eligible projects shall be reduced proportionately and any such reduction shall be included in the next State appropriation and any payments so withheld shall be made.

131.

The Comptroller shall withhold from any county or from the City of Baltimore any installment from the General State School Fund on notification from the State Superintendent of Schools that said county or City of Baltimore is not complying with the provisions of the State [foundation] program of public education.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That [[Section 1 of]] this Act shall take effect July 1, 1973[[,]] [[and Section 2 of this Act shall take effect July 1, 1974.]]

Approved May 21, 1973.
