

Annotated Code of Maryland
(1975 Replacement Volume and 1976 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That ~~Section Sections 73 and 75~~ of Article 77 - Public Education, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1975 Replacement Volume and 1976 Supplement) be and ~~it is~~ they are hereby repealed and reenacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Article 77 - Public Education

73.

(A) All persons between the ages of five and twenty years shall be admitted free of charge to the public schools of the State provided, however, that in those counties that do not on July 1, 1971 provide kindergartens or which on this date provide less than full kindergarten programs, implementation of full kindergarten programs shall be phased in by September of 1973, but in no event shall full programs be mandatory before September of 1973 provided, however, that full kindergarten programs shall be implemented by September of 1970 in Allegany and Carroll counties. [All] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN (B), such public schools under the jurisdiction of boards of education shall be kept open for not less than one hundred eighty (180) actual school days during a ten-month period of each school year.

(B) UPON WRITTEN APPLICATION FROM A COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION OR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS OF BALTIMORE CITY CONTAINING A DESCRIPTION OF A DEMONSTRATED EFFORT BY THE INDIVIDUAL BOARD TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF (A) ABOVE, THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY PERMIT: ADJUSTMENTS IN THE LENGTH OF THE SCHOOL YEAR; EXCEPTIONS FROM THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE SCHOOL YEAR BE COMPLETED WITHIN A TEN-MONTH PERIOD; ADJUSTMENTS IN THE LENGTH OF THE SCHOOL DAY; THE OPENING OF SCHOOLS ON SATURDAYS OR HOLIDAYS; OR ANY COMBINATION OF THESE MEASURES; PROVIDED THAT THESE ADJUSTMENTS MAY BE GRANTED ONLY FOR REASONS OF NATURAL OR CIVIL DISASTER OR SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS WHICH PREVENT NORMAL SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

(C) IN ANY YEAR WHERE THERE ARE LESS THAN 180 SCHOOL DAYS PURSUANT TO AN APPLICATION APPROVED UNDER (B) ABOVE, THERE SHALL BE NO DIMINUTION OF EDUCATION FUNDING UNDER THE STATE FORMULA OR LOCAL FUNDS REDUCTION IN EDUCATION FUNDING FROM STATE OR LOCAL SOURCES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPROVAL GRANTED UNDER (E) ABOVE.

75.

Schools shall be kept open each day during the school year, except Saturday, Sunday, and holidays, for not less than six hours. THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION