

House Bill 1247 was amended to delete those provisions which would have changed the Education Article. The purpose of this was to limit the bill to a change in the law for 1978 only.

Even though the Education Article repealed or transferred the provisions of old Article 77, the intent of the amendment to House Bill 1247 was misconstrued and the State Board of Education has treated the provisions of House Bill 1247 (Chapter 671) as still effective.

This bill makes clear that the provisions of House Bill 1247, as amended, are no longer effective and that the procedures specified in § 7-103(b) of the Education Article are the only ones available to the State Board of Education; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That chapter(s) of the Acts of the General Assembly be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Chapter 671 of the Acts of 1978

[SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows: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. 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 the ten-month period of each school year.

(b) Upon written application from a county board of education or the Board of 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 reduce the minimum number of school days required in subsection (a) of this section by not more than 10 school days, provided that this reduction may be granted only for reasons of natural or civil disaster or severe weather conditions which prevent normal school attendance.