"Subtitle 10A. Educational Technology Pilot Program" Annotated Code of Maryland (2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, With today's wireless and notebook technologies, it is possible for students to work together on a network with Internet access from every desk in every classroom, not just in the computer lab; and

WHEREAS, The best time to introduce students to computer technology is in elementary school, so that their acquaintance with how computers operate can form a solid foundation for their future needs; and

WHEREAS, Just providing technological hardware to schools is not sufficient to ensure the integration of computers into the lessons taught in the classroom, teachers must be trained in order to achieve technological integration with their curriculum; and

WHEREAS, Maryland has the opportunity to create a pilot program within designated elementary schools, in certain areas of the State, designed to introduce students to computer technology and train teachers to integrate such technology into their curriculum; and

WHEREAS, A computer technology pilot program will add to the increased performance of the State's elementary school students participating in the program and provide performance indicators that illustrate how teachers' familiarity with technology and teaching resources within the program have increased; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Education

7-904.

- (A) The State Superintendent may:
- (1) Procure and develop curriculum-based learning resources using state-of-the-art technologies and techniques designed to increase the achievement levels of all students in all subject areas;
- (2) Procure and develop long-term comprehensive instructional programming and associated support resources that ensure maximum access by all educational institutions;
- (3) Develop standards for teachers and other school system employees for the offering of courses or services on the Internet or through other developing technologies;
- (4) Review courses and courseware to assure quality and alignment with the Maryland content standards and other appropriate standards;