

~~State Board of Education, in conjunction with the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners, to study over a certain number of years the impact of an increased age range for compulsory public school attendance in Baltimore City; requiring the State Board to submit a report to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date that includes certain information; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to an increased age for compulsory school attendance in Baltimore City.~~

FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study Raising the Compulsory Public School Attendance Age to 18; providing for the membership and staffing of the Task Force; specifying the purposes and goals of the Task Force; providing for the staffing of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to evaluate and make recommendations regarding certain issues by a certain date and to submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to a Task Force to Study Raising the Compulsory Public School Attendance Age to 18.

~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~

~~Article—Education~~

~~Section 7-301~~

~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~

~~(2004 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)~~

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

~~Article—Education~~

~~7-301.~~

~~(a) (1) (i) Except as otherwise provided in this section AND SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, each child who resides in this State and is 5 years old or older and under 16 shall attend a public school regularly during the entire school year unless the child is otherwise receiving regular, thorough instruction during the school year in the studies usually taught in the public schools to children of the same age.~~

~~(H) EACH CHILD WHO RESIDES IN BALTIMORE CITY AND IS 5 YEARS OLD OR OLDER AND UNDER 18 SHALL ATTEND A PUBLIC SCHOOL REGULARLY DURING THE ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR UNLESS THE CHILD IS OTHERWISE RECEIVING REGULAR, THOROUGH INSTRUCTION DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR IN THE STUDIES USUALLY TAUGHT IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO CHILDREN OF THE SAME AGE.~~

~~(2) In accordance with regulations of the State Board of Education, a child who resides in this State and is 5 years old may be exempted from mandatory school attendance for 1 year if the child's parent or guardian files a written request with the local school system asking that the child's attendance be delayed due to the child's level of maturity.~~