

bring outstanding principals who had demonstrated success in improving student performance to the most challenging schools in Baltimore City; and

WHEREAS, In 3 years the positive results of the Fellowship Program are notable including increased student attendance, higher teacher retention, and significant improvement in student achievement in the Fellowship schools; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly recognizes that developing instructional leaders is vital to improving school and student achievement throughout Maryland; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly desires to expand the Fellowship Program statewide to focus on school instructional leadership, school improvement, and school leadership succession identified for restructuring; now, therefore,

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

**Article - Education**

6-116.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) "ELIGIBLE SCHOOL" MEANS A PUBLIC SCHOOL IDENTIFIED FOR RESTRUCTURING UNDER THE ACCOUNTABILITY REGULATIONS OF THE STATE BOARD.

(3) "EMPLOYER SCHOOL SYSTEM" MEANS THE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM WHERE AN APPLICANT TO THE PROGRAM IS EMPLOYED AT THE TIME OF SELECTION AS A FELLOW.

(4) "FELLOW" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.

(5) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE PRINCIPAL FELLOWSHIP AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

(6) "RECEIVING SCHOOL" MEANS A PUBLIC SCHOOL WHERE A FELLOW IS PLACED.

(7) "RECEIVING SCHOOL SYSTEM" MEANS THE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM IN WHICH THE PUBLIC SCHOOL WHERE A FELLOW IS PLACED IS LOCATED.

(B) THERE IS A STATEWIDE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION PRINCIPAL FELLOWSHIP AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT.

(C) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF:

(I) FELLOWS; AND