

(b) [The] EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW, THE Secretary may arrange as the Secretary considers appropriate any benefit option for inclusion in the Program.

2-504.

Each year the Governor shall include money in the State budget to pay the State share of the costs of the Program.

SECTION 8. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Education

5-202.

[(c) (1) If State aid for public elementary and secondary education exceeds 31.5% of the projected general funds of the State in any fiscal year, then the amount required for the annual per pupil foundation amount may not be implemented for the next fiscal year unless the General Assembly, at the regular session immediately preceding that next fiscal year, affirms by joint resolution that the additional State aid required using the annual per pupil foundation amount is within the State's fiscal resources.

(2) As provided under paragraph (1) of this subsection, if State aid for public elementary and secondary education exceeds the percentage amount specified and a joint resolution of affirmation is not enacted by the General Assembly, then the annual per pupil foundation amount in which the State shall share for the next fiscal year shall be the lesser of the annual per pupil foundation amount for the fiscal year or an amount equal to 108 percent of the prior year's annual per pupil foundation amount.

(3) By January 14 of each year, the Department of Legislative Services shall calculate State aid as a percentage of the projected State General Fund revenues for the current fiscal year. State aid shall include State funds provided to the county boards whether pursuant to formula or on a grant basis and State payments on behalf of the county boards such as retirement and debt service for State bonds for school construction.]

SECTION 9. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - State Government

9-117.

(a) (1) During a calendar year, a licensed agent shall receive regular commissions of [5%] 5.5% of the licensed agent's gross receipts from ticket sales made during that year.

(2) A licensed agent may further receive a cashing fee not to exceed 3% of valid prizes paid for services rendered in cashing winning tickets.