concerning unlawful absence of a child from school; repealing a certain prohibition and penalty; and generally relating to unlawful absences from the public schools in the State.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Education Section 7-301 Annotated Code of Maryland (1978 Volume and 1984 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) Each child who resides in this State and is 6 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.
- (b) A county superintendent, school principal, or an individual authorized by the county superintendent or principal may excuse a student for a necessary absence.
- (c) Each person who has under his control a child who is 6 years old or older and under 16 shall see that the child attends school or receives instruction as required by this section.
- (d) (1) This section applies to any child who has a mental, emotional, or physical handicap.
 - (2) This section does not apply to a child:
- (i) Whose mental, emotional, or physical condition makes his instruction detrimental to his progress; or
- (ii) Whose presence in school presents a danger of serious physical harm to others.
- (3) With the advice of the school principal, supervisor, pupil personnel supervisor, or visiting teacher and with the written recommendation of a licensed physician or a State Department of Education certified or licensed psychologist, the county superintendent may:
- (i) Make other appropriate provisions for the free education of any student excepted from attendance under paragraph (2) of this subsection; or