

~~THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF BALTIMORE CITY IN CLASSROOMS OR WITH STUDENTS SHALL BE LICENSED BY THE STATE BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION.~~

~~(2) BEFORE JULY 1, 1997, THE STATE BOARD AND THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS OF BALTIMORE CITY SHALL CONVENE A JOINT COMMISSION TO DEVELOP RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR TRAINING, EXAMINING, AND LICENSING EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS AND PARAPROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES UNDER THIS SUBSECTION. THE COMMISSION SHALL INCLUDE AMONG ITS MEMBERS EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES.~~

~~(3) WHEN ISSUING LICENSES, THE STATE BOARD SHALL CONSIDER PRIOR INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICE AND PRIOR EMPLOYMENT AS AN EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT OR A PARAPROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE BY THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS OF BALTIMORE CITY ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 1995.~~

~~(4) BEFORE JULY 1, 1999, THE STATE BOARD, WITH THE ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE OF THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION AND THE BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS OF BALTIMORE CITY, SHALL DEVELOP AND ADMINISTER A PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION FOR INDIVIDUALS TO BE LICENSED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.~~

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) There is a Task Force on Educational Assistants and Paraprofessionals in the Public Schools of Maryland.

(b) The Task Force shall review the present utilization of educational assistants and paraprofessionals by the county boards of education and make recommendations on:

(1) Entry level standards for educational assistants and paraprofessionals;

(2) Training and experience to be required of educational assistants and paraprofessionals;

(3) The development of examinations for entry into educational and paraprofessional careers;

(4) The licensing of educational assistants and paraprofessionals;

(5) Career ladders that educational assistants and paraprofessionals can anticipate following; and

(6) Other matters that the Task Force considers of significance.

(c) The Task Force shall be composed of ~~23~~ 24 members as follows:

(1) Two Senators appointed by the President of the Senate of Maryland;

(2) Two Delegates appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates;

(3) Two teachers appointed by the State Superintendent of Schools;