

(4) Has withdrawn from a regular full-time public or private school program for at least 3 months, except that the State Board may waive the 3-month withdrawal requirement [for a student enrolled in the Paquin School in Baltimore City] if the State Board considers the waiver justified.

(b) The State Board shall examine individuals for a high school diploma at least twice each year at places throughout this State that are reasonably convenient for the applicants.

(c) The examination shall:

- (1) Be offered in appropriate high school subject areas; and
- (2) Be of a comprehensive nature as determined by the State Board.

(d) An individual who fails an examination may take retests.

(e) A member of the armed forces may earn the Maryland high school diploma by taking the examinations furnished by the United States Armed Forces Institute and given by the appropriate service officer.

(f) The diploma shall be awarded in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the State Board.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1997.

Approved April 29, 1997.

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**CHAPTER 118**

**(Senate Bill 398)**

AN ACT concerning

**Education – Student Suspension and Expulsion**

FOR the purpose of broadening the authority of a county superintendent of schools to deny attendance to a student who has been expelled from another school system; and generally relating to student attendance and expulsion.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Education

Section 7-305(d)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1997 Replacement Volume)

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