CHAPTER 179

(Senate Bill 460)

AN ACT concerning

National Board for Professional Teaching Standards -- Certification -- State and Local Aid Pilot Program

FOR the purpose of establishing a program of State and local aid to teachers who pursue certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards; requiring the State Board of Education to select a certain number of teachers, consistent with a certain amount provided in the State budget, to participate in the program; requiring the State Board of Education to adopt certain regulations; specifying a certain amount to be received by certain teachers; requiring counties to pay a certain amount to the State under specified circumstances; requiring teachers to reimburse the State for certain aid received under certain circumstances; requiring the State to reimburse counties for certain amounts received under certain circumstances; requiring the State Board of Education to establish a statewide staff development plan; requiring the State Department of Education to make a certain report; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the establishment of a program of State and local aid to teachers who pursue certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

BY adding to

Article – Education Section 6–112 Annotated Code of Maryland (1997 Replacement Volume)

Preamble

WHEREAS, As the nation and this State seek to establish a world-class education system, the development of excellent teachers is essential to achieving that goal; and

WHEREAS, The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards assists teachers in their quest for excellence by assessing and certifying teachers throughout the nation who demonstrate the knowledge and skills needed to assist students to meet high standards of student achievement; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is to establish high and rigorous standards for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do, to develop and operate a national voluntary system to assess and certify teachers who meet these standards, and to advance related education reforms for the purpose of improving student learning in American schools; and