Approved May 18, 2000.

CHAPTER 504

(Senate Bill 107)

AN ACT concerning

Education - Public Education Partnership Fund

FOR the purpose of establishing the Public Education Partnership Fund; describing certain purposes of the Fund, authorizing the Fund to receive public grants and private contributions; authorizing the State Board of Education to use the Fund for certain purposes; requiring the Treasurer to invest certain money from the Fund for the use of the Fund and to credit certain earnings to the Fund; specifying certain procedures for expenditures from the Fund; making the Fund continuing and nonlapsing; making certain exceptions providing that the Fund may not be used for a certain purpose; providing that the Fund is subject to audit by the Legislative Auditor; and generally relating to public education and the Public Education Partnership Fund.

BY adding to

Article - Education Section 2-207 Annotated Code of Maryland (1999 Replacement Volume)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Research studies validate that fact that public education agencies and public schools are strengthened by private sector partnerships; and

WHEREAS, In those circumstances where cooperation between public education agencies and private partnerships exists, teachers, schools, and students benefit from the support, recognition, and expertise provided by the business community; and

WHEREAS, Public education and private sector partnerships also benefit the business community by enlarging its pool of prepared future employees; now, therefore,

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

Article - Education

2-207.

(A) $\underline{(1)}$ THERE IS A PUBLIC EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP FUND WHOSE PURPOSE IS: