

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2000.

Approved May 18, 2000.

CHAPTER 617

(House Bill 552)

AN ACT concerning

Special Education - Extending Age of Eligibility

FOR the purpose of extending the time through which a child is eligible for special education and related services to the end of the school year in which the child turns 21 years of age; and requiring special education and related services regulations of the State Board of Education to cover a child through the end of the school year in which the child turns 21 years of age.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Education

Section 8-403 and 8-404(a)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume)

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

Article - Education

8-403.

(a) The State and each local school system shall make a free appropriate public education available to each child with a disability, as provided by this subtitle.

(b) Appropriate special education and related services are available to a child with a disability from birth through [age 20] **THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR IN WHICH THE CHILD TURNS 21 YEARS OF AGE.**

8-404.

(a) The State Board shall adopt, as regulations, standards for the identification, evaluation, educational placement, and the provision of a free appropriate public education of each child in this State who [is under] **HAS BEGUN THE SCHOOL YEAR ~~ON OR BEFORE~~ UNDER** the age of 21 and is found to need special education and related services, whether or not the child is receiving nonduplicative services from another governmental agency.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2000.