

WHEREAS, Teachers and school administrators leaving the profession routinely state that poor working conditions in the schools, including the burdensome paperwork issues, are most to blame; and

WHEREAS, Because we already face a teacher shortage in Maryland and the recently passed federal law, No Child Left Behind Act, establishes additional pressures with federal mandates; and

WHEREAS, It is important to address any condition that contributes to teacher and school administrator attrition and interferes with ~~teachers'~~ educators' ability to devote their time, attention, and talent to meeting the instructional needs of their students; now, therefore,

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

(a) There is a Study Commission on ~~Teachers'~~ Educators' Time and Paperwork.

(b) The Commission shall consist of the following ~~13~~ 14 16 members:

(1) one representative of the State Department of Education, appointed by the State Superintendent;

(2) ~~three~~ five representatives from local school systems, including at least ~~one~~ three local school ~~administrator~~ administrators, selected by the Maryland Association of Boards of Education;

(3) one representative of a disability advocacy community appointed by the Governor;

(4) one speech-language pathologist who is employed as a speech-language pathologist in the public schools, appointed by the State Board of Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, and Speech-Language Pathologists;

(5) four teachers, three selected by the largest statewide employee union representing teachers and one teacher selected by the second largest public employee union as follows:

(i) two with expertise in general education;

(ii) one with expertise in special education; and

(iii) one with expertise in special services;

~~(5)~~ (6) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate; and

~~(6)~~ (7) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House.

(c) The Commission shall designate the chairman of the Commission.