

(3) ~~the~~ The amount and cost of contracted services utilized by each of the local public school systems in the State for audiology and ~~speech and language~~ speech-language services;

(4) ~~the~~ The number of vacancies filled by contracted personnel and the total number of vacancies for audiologists and ~~speech and language~~ speech-language pathologists in the local public school ~~system~~ systems in the State;

(5) ~~the~~ The caseloads and ~~workloads~~ workload duties for the audiologists and ~~speech and language~~ speech-language pathologists in the local public school systems in the State;

(6) the number of children without ~~hearing~~ audiology hearing and ~~speech and language~~ speech-language services due to unfilled positions for audiologists and ~~speech and language~~ speech-language pathologists, including the average length of time the children have been without services;

(7) ~~the~~ The cost of compensatory services and any other legal or administrative costs incurred by the local public school systems in the State for children who do not receive hearing and ~~speech and language~~ speech-language services; and

(8) ~~the~~ The number of children in need of hearing and ~~speech and language~~ speech-language services in the local public school systems in the State.

(g) (e) ~~The Study Panel~~ Task Force shall make recommendations ~~as to~~ regarding:

(1) ~~the~~ The need, if any, for audiologists and ~~speech and language~~ speech-language pathologists on staff in the local public school ~~system~~ systems in the State;

(2) ~~the~~ The need, if any, to implement methods to retain and recruit audiologists and ~~speech and language~~ speech-language pathologists in the public school ~~system~~ systems in the State; and

(3) ~~whether~~ Whether the current caseloads and workloads for audiologists and ~~speech and language~~ speech-language pathologists need to be adjusted to increase hearing and ~~speech and language~~ speech-language services for children in need.

(h) (f) ~~The Study Panel shall report~~ On or before December 31, 2003, the Task Force shall issue a written report of its findings and recommendations to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee, ~~subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on or before December 1, 2003.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect ~~June~~ July 1, 2003. It shall remain ~~in effect through December 2003~~ effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of ~~December 31, 2003~~ June 30, 2004, ~~without the necessity of further action~~ with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.