

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

Article - Education

~~SUBTITLE 8. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.~~

~~6-801.~~

~~(A) THERE IS A MARYLAND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT.~~

~~(B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO:~~

~~(1) PROVIDE INTENSIVE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHERS, PRINCIPALS, AND GUIDANCE COUNSELORS IN THE STATE EACH YEAR ON METHODS AND PRACTICES THAT SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACT STUDENT LEARNING WITH EMPHASIS ON INSTRUCTION OF DISADVANTAGED AND CAPABLE STUDENTS;~~

~~(2) TEACH HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELORS TO DIAGNOSTICALLY INTERPRET THE RESULTS OF THE PRELIMINARY SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST AND TO USE THE RESULTS TO ASSIST STUDENTS IN PREPARING FOR HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS; AND~~

~~(3) PROMOTE THE OVERALL IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE STATE.~~

~~(C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE GRANTS TO COUNTIES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS EACH YEAR FOR ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, AND HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS, PRINCIPALS, AND GUIDANCE COUNSELORS IN THE STATE.~~

~~(D) THE PROGRAM MAY INCLUDE:~~

~~(1) INDUCTION AND MENTORING OF NEW TEACHERS;~~

~~(2) INSTRUCTION ON TECHNIQUES FOR TEACHING DISADVANTAGED AND CAPABLE STUDENTS;~~

~~(3) EXAMINATION OF A REDUCED WORKLOAD FOR FIRST YEAR TEACHERS; AND~~

~~(4) SUMMER WORKSHOPS.~~

~~(E) FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAM SHALL BE AS PROVIDED IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE DEPARTMENT.~~

7-203.1.

(A) (1) FOR FISCAL YEARS 2003 AND 2005 2004, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE GRANTS TO QUALIFIED DISTRESSED COUNTIES, AS DEFINED IN ARTICLE 83A, § 5-701 OF THE CODE, FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PRELIMINARY SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST TO 10TH GRADE STUDENTS.