

been an issue. However, given our current economic climate, I must scrutinize the use of State resources very carefully and my highest priority must be the educational needs of all the 700,000 young people who attend the public schools located in Maryland's 24 local school systems. As Governor, I must consider how many students will benefit from each dollar expended for education and I must invest our limited resources wisely. In these difficult fiscal times, I certainly cannot justify appropriating such a substantial amount for only 170 students.

Lida Lee Tall does an excellent job of providing a quality education to a few students, but in my opinion, it serves far too few to justify the continuation of its State appropriation. This position should not surprise the supporters and others involved with the Center. Concerns were raised by the Executive Branch over two years ago about the Lida Lee Tall Learning Resources Center's failure to implement its mission on a statewide basis. In light of the questions that were asked, the reservations that were expressed about funding, and the warnings that were given, State funding should not have been expected to continue when the Center did not expand its focus.

For these reasons, I am vetoing Senate 597.

Sincerely,
William Donald Schaefer
Governor

Senate Bill No. 597

AN ACT concerning

Lida Lee Tall Learning Resources Center

FOR the purpose of altering the membership of the Board of Trustees of the Lida Lee Tall Learning Resources Center; expanding the scope of the research conducted at the Center; expanding the curriculum to include certain new subject areas; ~~authorizing certain payments to the Lida Lee Tall Learning Resources Center by Baltimore City in certain years, subject to the taking effect of a certain Act;~~ establishing a task force to study and submit a certain report regarding future financing of the Lida Lee Tall Learning Resources Center by a certain date; providing for membership and staff support for the task force; establishing a task force to develop a plan for the dissemination of certain information and programs to the public schools of the State by a certain date; and generally relating to the continued operation of the Lida Lee Tall Learning Resources Center.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Education

Section 24-106

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1989 Replacement Volume and 1990 Supplement)

Preamble