

blind students who have other severe disabilities; providing for the placement of students in the enhanced program; requiring the State and certain counties under certain circumstances to share in paying the costs of the program; requiring ~~the School~~ The Maryland School for the Blind and the Department of Education to enter into a written agreement regarding certain monitoring of ~~the School~~ The Maryland School for the Blind by the Department and certain assistance from the Department to ~~the School~~ The Maryland School for the Blind; authorizing certain agreements between ~~the School~~ The Maryland School for the Blind and certain other agencies; defining certain terms; establishing a formula to calculate certain mandatory annual funding obligations for the State; requiring the Governor to include certain details in the Budget; including the The Maryland School for the Blind among entities for which the Governor may not reduce appropriations; providing that The Maryland School for the Blind is a public body for certain purposes; requiring the Department of Education to submit certain reports to the budget certain committees; and generally relating to ~~the~~ The Maryland School for the Blind.

BY adding to

Article – Education

Section 8-314 through ~~8-317~~ 8-318

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1997 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Education

Section 8-415(d)(1)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1997 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – State Finance and Procurement

Section 7-213(b)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1995 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – State Government

Section 10-502(h)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1995 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

#### Preamble

WHEREAS, The Maryland School for the Blind provides an essential service for some blind children in the State; and