



Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.  
State Superintendent of Schools

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October 1, 2017

The Honorable Larry Hogan  
State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1925

The Honorable Thomas V. "Mike" Miller, Jr.  
H-107 State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Michael E. Busch  
H-101 State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Alternative Teaching Opportunity Program (MSAR #5735)

Dear Governor Hogan, President Miller and Speaker Busch:

In 2006, House Bill 794, ED § (f) established the Maryland Alternative Teaching Opportunity Program. The Maryland Alternative Teaching Opportunity Program was to occur in several selected school districts and include up to 150 teaching candidates as participants. According to the bill, "...On October 1, 2008, and each year thereafter, the Department shall submit to the Governor and the General Assembly, a report regarding (1) the school systems participating in the program and the number of per diem stipends awarded; (2) the teaching assignments of resident teachers participating in the program; and (3) the retention rate of resident teachers participating in the program during their first five years of teaching." Since this program was never funded, no resident teachers have participated and no stipends have been awarded. This correspondence serves as the reporting requirement as specified in the law.

It may be of interest that Code of Maryland Regulations 13A.12.01.07 (2006) did establish guidelines for alternative-prepared resident teachers, including a teacher certification process as well as a state program approval process for alternative programs. Since 2008, 4,350 resident teachers have been hired in six local education agencies and have acquired full professional certification. Data are available regarding this process upon request.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Ms. Sarah Spross, Assistant State Superintendent for the Division of Educator Effectiveness at (410) 767-0385 or by email at [sarah.spross@maryland.gov](mailto:sarah.spross@maryland.gov).

Best Regards,

Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.  
State Superintendent of Schools

KBS/MD

C: Sarah Spross