

## Chapter 141

(House Bill 830)

AN ACT concerning

### Alternatives to the General Educational Development Tests – Study

FOR the purpose of requiring the Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning in the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation to conduct a certain study regarding the evaluation of alternative methods for obtaining the equivalent of a high school diploma; requiring the Division to submit the results of the study to the General Assembly on or before a certain date; and generally relating to a study regarding the evaluation of alternative methods for obtaining the equivalent of a high school diploma.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) The Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning in the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation shall conduct a study to identify alternative methods for an individual to earn the equivalent of a high school diploma without passing the General Educational Development tests.

(b) When conducting the study required under subsection (a) of this section, the Division shall consider whether:

(1) an alternative method presents greater opportunities for individuals to obtain the equivalent of a high school diploma;

(2) an alternative method adequately measures the major subject area knowledge and skills considered to be the outcomes of a high school education;

(3) the costs of an alternative method as compared with the costs of the General Educational Development tests justify the adoption of an alternative method;

(4) other jurisdictions have studied or adopted an alternative method;  
and

(5) an alternative method provides foreign language and disability accommodations.

(c) On or before December 1, 2013, the Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning shall report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of

the State Government Article, the General Assembly on the results of the study conducted under this section.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2013. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of May 31, 2014, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

**Approved by the Governor, April 9, 2013.**