

# HOUSE BILL 287

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CF SB 361

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By: ~~Delegate Hixson~~ Delegates Hixson, Haynes, Walker, Branch, Mosby, Tarlau,  
A. Washington, M. Washington, C. Howard, Turner, Ebersole, Patterson,  
D. Barnes, Simonaire, Wilkins, and Ali

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2017

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 17, 2017

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Hunger-Free Schools Act of 2017**

3 FOR the purpose of altering a certain definition for certain fiscal years to determine the  
4 number of students used to calculate a certain grant for schools that participate in a  
5 certain federal program; ~~requiring the superintendent of each local school system to~~  
6 ~~report certain information to the General Assembly on or before a certain date;~~ and  
7 generally relating to the compensatory education grant for primary and secondary  
8 education.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article – Education  
11 Section 5–207(a)(3)  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Education**

17 5–207.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (a) (3) (i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph,  
2 “compensatory education enrollment count” means the number of students eligible for free  
3 or reduced price meals for the prior fiscal year.

4 (ii) For fiscal years 2017 [and 2018] **THROUGH 2022**,  
5 “compensatory education enrollment count” means:

6 1. The number of students eligible for free or reduced price  
7 meals for the prior fiscal year; or

8 2. For county boards that participate, in whole or in part, in  
9 the United States Department of Agriculture community eligibility provision, the number  
10 of students equal to the greater of:

11 A. The sum of the number of students in participating schools  
12 identified by direct certification for the prior fiscal year, plus the number of students  
13 identified by the income information provided by the family to the school system on an  
14 alternative form developed by the Department for the prior fiscal year, plus the number of  
15 students eligible for free and reduced price meals from any schools not participating in the  
16 community eligibility provision for the prior fiscal year; or

17 B. Subject to subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph, the  
18 number of students eligible for free and reduced price meals at schools not participating in  
19 the community eligibility provision for the prior fiscal year, plus the product of the  
20 percentage of students eligible for free and reduced price meals at participating schools for  
21 the fiscal year prior to opting into the community eligibility provision multiplied by the  
22 prior fiscal year enrollment.

23 (iii) For the purpose of the calculation under subparagraph (ii)2B of  
24 this paragraph, the schools participating in the community eligibility provision during the  
25 pilot year may use the percentage of students identified for free and reduced price meals  
26 during the pilot year.

27 ~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before September 1,~~  
28 ~~2017, the superintendent of each local school system shall report to the General Assembly,~~  
29 ~~in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article:~~

30 ~~(1) for each school in the local school system:~~

31 ~~(i) the total enrollment;~~

32 ~~(ii) the enrollment by free and reduced price meals status;~~

33 ~~(iii) the identified student percentage that would be used to~~  
34 ~~determine eligibility to participate in the United States Department of Agriculture~~  
35 ~~community eligibility provision; and~~

~~(iv) whether each school is currently participating in the Maryland Meals for Achievement program and the amount of State funds provided under the program in the most recently completed fiscal year;~~

~~(2) for each school system that is not participating in the community eligibility provision in whole or in part:~~

~~(i) a summary of all meetings and public events held to discuss and gather feedback regarding whether the school system, in whole or in part, should elect to participate in the community eligibility provision;~~

~~(ii) a detailed financial analysis of participating, in whole or in part, in the community eligibility provision;~~

~~(iii) identified barriers to participating, in whole or in part, in the community eligibility provision, including, if applicable, the cost of overcoming the barrier; and~~

~~(iv) whether the principal or other appropriate administrator in a school that is eligible to participate in the community eligibility provision recommends that their school participate, including:~~

~~1. the anticipated impact on students, families, and school staff of students having access to free breakfast and lunch under the community eligibility provision; and~~

~~2. if student attendance, tardiness, engagement, test scores, or behavior problems are a concern in the school, the extent of that problem, identified causes, and how participating in the community eligibility provision might influence these concerns; and~~

~~(3) for each school system that is participating in the community eligibility provision in whole or in part:~~

~~(i) for each participating school, a detailed accounting of federal reimbursement received for meals for the fiscal years in which the school participated and cost of providing the meals; and~~

~~(ii) for each participating school, based on information provided by the principal or other appropriate administrator:~~

~~1. the positive and negative impacts of participating;~~

~~2. the impact on students, families, and school staff of students having access to free breakfast and lunch under the community eligibility provision; and~~

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1 ~~3. whether, since participating in the community eligibility~~  
2 ~~provision, there has been a change in student attendance, tardiness, engagement, test~~  
3 ~~scores, or behavior, including data to show the change.~~

4 SECTION ~~3.~~ 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
5 July 1, 2017.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.