

SENATE BILL 346

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7lr0394

By: **Senators Conway, Astle, Benson, Currie, Feldman, Ferguson, Kelley, King, Madaleno, McFadden, Muse, Nathan-Pulliam, Peters, Pinsky, Ramirez, Robinson, Rosapepe, Smith, and Zucker**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2017

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Prekindergarten Students – Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing certain supplemental prekindergarten grants beginning
4 in a certain fiscal year; providing for the calculation of certain supplemental
5 prekindergarten grants; requiring certain prekindergarten students to be included
6 in a certain enrollment count for purposes of calculating certain State aid formulas
7 for education; prohibiting this Act from being construed to authorize the inclusion of
8 certain students in certain education aid calculations; and generally relating to
9 funding for prekindergarten students.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Education

12 Section 5–207.1

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

16 Article – Education

17 Section 7–101.1(a) and (b)

18 Annotated Code of Maryland

19 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

21 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

22 **Article – Education**

23 **5–207.1.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (A) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2019, EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL
2 RECEIVE A SUPPLEMENTAL PREKINDERGARTEN GRANT BASED ON:

3 (1) THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS, AS DEFINED IN § 7-101.1
4 OF THIS ARTICLE, ENROLLED IN HALF-DAY PREKINDERGARTEN ON SEPTEMBER 30
5 OF THE PRIOR SCHOOL YEAR MULTIPLIED BY 0.50 IN FISCAL YEAR 2019 AND EACH
6 FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER; AND

7 (2) THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS, AS DEFINED IN § 7-101.1
8 OF THIS ARTICLE, ENROLLED IN FULL-DAY PREKINDERGARTEN ON SEPTEMBER 30
9 OF THE PRIOR SCHOOL YEAR MULTIPLIED BY 1.0 IN FISCAL YEAR 2019 AND EACH
10 FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER.

11 (B) (1) THE AMOUNT OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL PREKINDERGARTEN
12 GRANT SHALL BE CALCULATED AS PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION.

13 (2) FOR EACH COUNTY, THE SUPPLEMENTAL PREKINDERGARTEN
14 GRANT SHALL BE THE SUM OF:

15 (I) THE STATE SHARE OF THE PER PUPIL FOUNDATION
16 AMOUNT FOR EACH ELIGIBLE PREKINDERGARTEN STUDENT; AND

17 (II) THE RESULT OF MULTIPLYING THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE
18 PREKINDERGARTEN STUDENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION BY THE
19 PER PUPIL AMOUNT THE COUNTY BOARD IS CALCULATED TO RECEIVE UNDER §
20 5-207 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

21 (C) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2019 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER,
22 ELIGIBLE PREKINDERGARTEN STUDENTS ENROLLED ON SEPTEMBER 30 OF THE
23 PREVIOUS SCHOOL YEAR SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE ENROLLMENT COUNT USED
24 TO DETERMINE THE LOCAL SHARE OF THE FOUNDATION PROGRAM UNDER § 5-202
25 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

26 (D) THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO AUTHORIZE THE INCLUSION
27 OF PREKINDERGARTEN STUDENTS IN THE COUNTY OR STATEWIDE WEALTH PER
28 PUPIL CALCULATIONS INCLUDED IN THIS ARTICLE.

29 7-101.1.

30 (a) (1) In this section the following terms have the meanings indicated.

1 (2) “Economically disadvantaged background” means a family whose
2 income would make a child eligible for free or reduced price meals if the child were in
3 kindergarten.

4 (3) “Eligible child” means a child:

5 (i) Who is from an economically disadvantaged background;

6 (ii) Whose parent or guardian seeks to enroll the child in a public
7 prekindergarten program; and

8 (iii) Who is 4 years old on September 1 of the school year in which the
9 parent or legal guardian seeks to enroll the child in a public prekindergarten program.

10 (4) “Eligible for free or reduced price meals” means eligible for free or
11 reduced price meals based on eligibility requirements established by the United States
12 Department of Agriculture.

13 (b) By the 2007–2008 school year, all eligible children shall be admitted free of
14 charge to publicly funded prekindergarten programs established by each of the county
15 boards.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
17 1, 2017.