

HOUSE BILL 193

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8lr0103
CF SB 43

By: **Chair, Economic Matters Committee and Chair, Ways and Means Committee**
(By Request – Departmental – Labor, Licensing and Regulation)

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2018

Assigned to: Economic Matters and Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 10, 2018

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **High School Diploma by Examination – Eligibility Requirements – Exemption**

3 FOR the purpose of exempting certain individuals from certain eligibility requirements to
4 obtain a high school diploma by examination if the individual participates in a
5 certain program; and generally relating to the eligibility requirements to obtain a
6 high school diploma by examination.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article – Labor and Employment

9 Section 11–808

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Labor and Employment**

15 11–808.

16 (a) An individual may obtain a high school diploma by examination as provided
17 in this section if the individual:

18 (1) has not obtained a high school diploma;

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 (2) resides in this State; AND

2 (3) **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION:**

3 (I) is not subject to compulsory school attendance under § 7–301 of
4 the Education Article; and

5 [(4)] (II) has withdrawn from a regular full–time public or private school
6 program.

7 (B) **AN INDIVIDUAL IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF**
8 **SUBSECTION (A)(3) OF THIS SECTION IF THE INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATES IN A GED**
9 **OPTION PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**
10 **THAT CREATES A PATHWAY TO A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA BY EXAMINATION FOR**
11 **CURRENTLY ENROLLED HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER STUDENTS**
12 **UNDER THE AGE OF 21 YEARS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED INTERRUPTED EDUCATION**
13 **AND HAVE A LOWER LEVEL OF ENGLISH PROFICIENCY THAN THEIR PEERS.**

14 [(b)] (C) The Department shall offer examinations to individuals who are
15 pursuing a high school diploma under this subtitle at least twice each year at places
16 throughout the State that are reasonably convenient for the applicants.

17 [(c)] (D) The examination shall:

18 (1) be offered in appropriate high school subject areas; and

19 (2) be of a comprehensive nature as determined by the State Board of
20 Education.

21 [(d)] (E) An individual who fails an examination may repeat taking the
22 examination.

23 [(e)] (F) A current member of the armed forces is exempt from the residency
24 requirement in subsection (a)(2) of this section and may earn a Maryland high school
25 diploma by achieving a passing score on the examination offered under subsection [(b)] (C)
26 of this section.

27 [(f)] (G) The diploma shall be awarded in accordance with the regulations
28 adopted by the Secretary and the State Board of Education.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
30 1, 2018.