

HOUSE BILL 685

F5

(2lr0932)

ENROLLED BILL

— *Ways and Means/Budget and Taxation* —

Introduced by **Delegates C. Branch, Amprey, Attar, Ebersole, Foley, Henson, Jackson, D. Jones, R. Lewis, McIntosh, Palakovich Carr, and Smith**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this _____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Regional Resource Centers and Libraries – Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the calculation of certain funding for certain regional resource
4 centers and each county public library system for certain fiscal years; requiring each
5 public library to offer at least one type of service beginning on a certain date; and
6 generally relating to the public libraries in the State.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

8 Article – Education

9 Section 23–202(b)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

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.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 Article – Education
 2 Section 23–205(c) and 23–503
 3 Annotated Code of Maryland
 4 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

5 BY adding to
 6 Article – Education
 7 Section 23–410
 8 Annotated Code of Maryland
 9 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

12 **Article – Education**

13 23–202.

14 (b) Each regional resource center shall provide, through mutual cooperation and
 15 coordination, books, information, and other material and service resources that an
 16 individual library cannot provide adequately by itself.

17 23–205.

18 (c) (1) Each year each participating regional resource center shall receive a
 19 minimum amount of funding for each resident of the area served, to be used for operating
 20 and capital expenses.

21 (2) The allocation shall be calculated as follows:

22 (i) For each of fiscal years 2011 through 2015.....\$6.75 per each
 23 resident of the area served;

24 (ii) For fiscal year 2016..... \$6.95 per each resident of the area
 25 served;

26 (iii) For fiscal year 2017..... \$7.15 per each resident of the area
 27 served;

28 (iv) For fiscal year 2018..... \$7.55 per each resident of the area
 29 served;

30 (v) For fiscal year 2019..... \$7.95 per each resident of the area
 31 served;

32 (vi) For fiscal year 2020..... \$8.35 per each resident of the area
 33 served;

1 (vii) For fiscal year 2021..... \$8.55 per each resident of the area
2 served; [and]

3 (viii) For fiscal year 2022 [and each fiscal year thereafter].....
4 \$8.75 per each resident of the area served;

5 (IX) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023\$9.19 PER EACH RESIDENT
6 OF THE AREA SERVED;

7 (X) FOR FISCAL YEAR ~~2023~~ 2024..... ~~\$9.19~~ ~~\$8.95~~ \$9.39 PER
8 EACH RESIDENT OF THE AREA SERVED;

9 (X) ~~FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 2025..... \$9.65 \$9.15 PER EACH~~
10 ~~RESIDENT OF THE AREA SERVED;~~

11 (XI) ~~FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 2026..... \$10.13 \$9.35 PER EACH~~
12 ~~RESIDENT OF THE AREA SERVED;~~

13 (XII) ~~FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 2027..... \$10.64 \$10.33 PER EACH~~
14 ~~RESIDENT OF THE AREA SERVED; AND~~

15 (XIII) ~~FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027 2028 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR~~
16 ~~THEREAFTER.....\$11.17 \$10.35 PER EACH~~
17 ~~RESIDENT OF THE AREA SERVED;~~

18 (XI) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025.....\$9.59 PER EACH RESIDENT OF
19 THE AREA SERVED;

20 (XII) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026..... \$9.79 PER EACH RESIDENT
21 OF THE AREA SERVED; AND

22 (XIII) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR
23 THEREAFTER.....\$9.99 PER EACH RESIDENT OF THE AREA SERVED.

24 23-410.

25 BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2024, EACH PUBLIC LIBRARY MUST OFFER AT LEAST
26 ONE OF THE FOLLOWING SERVICES ALONE OR IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UNITS OF
27 GOVERNMENT OR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS:

28 (1) A PROGRAM TO INCREASE SCORES ON THE KINDERGARTEN
29 ASSESSMENT ADMINISTERED UNDER § 7-210 OF THIS ARTICLE;

1 **(2) A PROGRAM DESIGNED TO CLOSE LEARNING GAPS CREATED BY**
2 **LACK OF ACCESS TO EDUCATION, INCLUDING LEARNING GAPS THAT OCCURRED**
3 **DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC;**

4 **(3) AN INITIATIVE TO EXPAND DIGITAL EQUITY AND ACCESS TO FREE**
5 **COMPUTING AND BROADBAND INTERNET;**

6 **(4) AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY**
7 **INSTRUCTION AND SKILLS, HEALTH LITERACY, INSTRUCTION ON OPERATING A**
8 **SMALL BUSINESS, AND INSTRUCTION ON WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT;**

9 **(5) SERVING AS A COMMUNITY RESOURCE AND DISTRIBUTION SITE**
10 **DURING PUBLIC EMERGENCIES;**

11 **(6) A PROGRAM TO REDUCE BARRIERS TO STEM EDUCATION,**
12 **INCLUDING BY PROVIDING ACTIVITIES, CLASSES, PROGRAMS, AND EVENTS; AND**

13 **(7) SUPPORT FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND REDUCING SOCIAL AND**
14 **PHYSICAL ISOLATION.**

15 23-503.

16 (a) (1) The entire capital and operating cost of the minimum library program
17 for this State as a whole shall be shared as provided in this subsection.

18 (2) The State shall provide:

19 (i) Approximately 40 percent of the total cost of the minimum
20 program; and

21 (ii) Not less than 20 percent of the cost of the minimum program in
22 any county.

23 (3) The counties participating in the program together shall provide
24 through local taxes approximately 60 percent of the total statewide cost of the minimum
25 program.

26 (b) (1) Each county public library system that participates in the minimum
27 library program shall be provided for each resident of the county, to be used for operating
28 and capital expenses:

29 (i) For each of fiscal years 2011 through 2015 – \$14.00;

30 (ii) For fiscal year 2016 – \$14.27;

31 (iii) For fiscal year 2017 – \$14.54;

- 1 (iv) For fiscal year 2018 – \$15.00;
- 2 (v) For fiscal year 2019 – \$15.50;
- 3 (vi) For fiscal year 2020 – \$16.00;
- 4 (vii) For fiscal year 2021 – \$16.43; [and]
- 5 ~~(viii) For EACH OF fiscal [year] YEARS 2022 and [each fiscal year~~
- 6 ~~thereafter] 2023 – \$17.10;~~
- 7 ~~(IX) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 – \$17.78 \$17.30;~~
- 8 ~~(X) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 – \$18.50 \$17.50;~~
- 9 ~~(XI) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 – \$19.24 \$17.70; AND~~
- 10 ~~(XII) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR~~
- 11 ~~THEREAFTER – \$20.00 \$17.90.~~

12 (VIII) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 – \$17.10;

13 (IX) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 – \$17.50;

14 (X) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024 – \$17.90;

15 (XI) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 – \$18.30;

16 (XII) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 – \$18.70; AND

17 (XIII) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027 – \$19.10.

18 (2) (i) The State shall share in this amount.

19 (ii) Any county may provide an amount greater than its share under
 20 the cooperative program, but the State may not share in the excess.

21 (c) Any employer Social Security contributions required by federal law for any
 22 employee in a county public library system shall remain the obligation of the employer.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
 24 1, 2022.