

SENATE BILL 421

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EMERGENCY BILL

2lr1302
CF HB 753

By: **Senators Rosapepe, Lam, West, Lee, Jackson, ~~and Augustine~~ Augustine, Benson, and Klausmeier**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2022

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 26, 2022

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Primary and Secondary Schools – Bus Driver Wages – Study**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor’s Workforce Development Board, on or before a
4 certain date, to evaluate, study, and identify certain issues related to wages paid to
5 certain bus drivers and report its findings to the governing body of each county and
6 Baltimore City, each county board of education, including Baltimore City, the
7 Governor, and the General Assembly; and generally relating to wages for bus drivers
8 that serve primary and secondary schools.

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

11 (a) In this section, “bus driver” means an individual employed to drive a bus that
12 serves a primary or secondary school in the State, including an individual who is employed
13 by:

14 (1) a county board of education, including Baltimore City;

15 (2) a person that contracts with a local school system to provide bus driving
16 services at a public or private school in the State; or

17 (3) a private primary or secondary school in the State.

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 (b) On or before ~~July~~ September 1, 2022, the Governor's Workforce Development
2 Board shall:

3 (1) evaluate the possibility of paying prevailing wage rates, which is the
4 estimated hourly rate of wages paid in the locality as determined by the Governor's
5 Workforce Development Board, to bus drivers;

6 (2) study and identify the wages that must be paid and benefits that must
7 be provided to bus drivers to ensure that the vacancy rate for bus drivers is below 2% of the
8 total number of bus drivers needed to serve primary and secondary schools in the State;
9 ~~and~~

10 (3) in conducting the evaluation, study, and identification under items (1)
11 and (2) of this subsection, consider regional variation in prevailing wages paid to bus
12 drivers in the State; and

13 ~~(3)~~ (4) report the findings under items (1) and (2) of this subsection to the
14 governing body of each county and Baltimore City, each county board of education,
15 including Baltimore City, the Governor, and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State
16 Government Article, the General Assembly.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
18 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has
19 been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to
20 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is
21 enacted. It shall remain effective through June 30, 2023, and, at the end of June 30, 2023,
22 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and
23 of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.