

SENATE BILL 986

F1

2lr3280
CF HB 1240

By: **Senator Hershey**

Introduced and read first time: February 19, 2022

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Low-Density Calculation – Mandated Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill an
4 appropriation in an amount equal to the low-density calculation for certain counties
5 that meet certain population density and full-time equivalent student enrollment
6 limitations; and generally relating to mandated funding for counties with low density
7 and a low student enrollment count.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Education

10 Section 5–243

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Education**

16 **5–243.**

17 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
18 **INDICATED.**

19 **(2) “ELIGIBLE COUNTY” MEANS A COUNTY WITH:**

20 **(I) A POPULATION DENSITY AMOUNT LESS THAN 100; AND**

21 **(II) A FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT ENROLLMENT OF FEWER THAN**
22 **2,000 STUDENTS.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(3) “LOW-DENSITY CALCULATION” MEANS THE FULL-TIME**
2 **EQUIVALENT ENROLLMENT FOR A COUNTY MULTIPLIED BY THE PRODUCT OF THE**
3 **PER PUPIL AMOUNT AND THE TOTAL SQUARE MILES IN THE COUNTY.**

4 **(4) “PER PUPIL AMOUNT” MEANS:**

5 **(I) IN FISCAL YEAR 2024, \$0.43;**

6 **(II) IN FISCAL YEAR 2025, \$1.06;**

7 **(III) IN FISCAL YEAR 2026, \$1.27;**

8 **(IV) IN FISCAL YEAR 2027, \$2.34;**

9 **(V) IN FISCAL YEAR 2028, \$3.61;**

10 **(VI) IN FISCAL YEAR 2029, \$4.67;**

11 **(VII) IN FISCAL YEAR 2030, \$5.95;**

12 **(VIII) IN FISCAL YEAR 2031, \$7.22; AND**

13 **(IX) FOR SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEARS, THE PER PUPIL AMOUNT**
14 **FOR THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR INCREASED BY \$0.85.**

15 **(5) “POPULATION DENSITY AMOUNT” MEANS THE TOTAL COUNTY**
16 **POPULATION DIVIDED BY THE SQUARE MILES IN THE COUNTY.**

17 **(B) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2024, FOR EACH ELIGIBLE COUNTY, THE**
18 **GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION IN**
19 **AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE LOW-DENSITY CALCULATION FOR THE COUNTY.**

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
21 1, 2022.