

HOUSE BILL 1082

F1
HB 1196/23 – APP

4lr2581

By: **Delegates Smith and Toles**
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2024
Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Blueprint for Maryland’s Future Implementation – Funding and Independent**
3 **Evaluation – Alterations**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring, for certain fiscal years, each county board of education to
5 provide for the salary and benefits of the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future
6 implementation coordinator in the county; requiring the funding for the salary and
7 benefits of the implementation coordinator to be paid for by the State and the county
8 in a certain proportion; altering the dates by which the entity contracted by the
9 Accountability and Implementation Board to perform an independent evaluation of
10 the implementation of the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future is required to report to
11 the Board and the Board is required to report to the Governor and the General
12 Assembly; altering certain funding requirements under certain circumstances; and
13 generally relating to the implementation of the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
15 Article – Education
16 Section 5–404(b)(2) and 5–410(a) and (b)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
20 Article – Education
21 Section 5–404(h) and 5–410(c) and (d)
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

24 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
25 Chapter 36 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2021
26 Section 16(d) through (f)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

3 **Article – Education**

4 5–404.

5 (b) (2) State and local government units responsible for implementing an
6 element of the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future shall develop implementation plans
7 consistent with the Comprehensive Implementation Plan that describe the goals,
8 objectives, and strategies that will be used to improve student achievement and meet the
9 Blueprint for Maryland’s Future recommendations for each segment of the student
10 population.

11 (h) (1) For each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026, the governing body of a
12 county and the local school system jointly shall appoint a single implementation
13 coordinator responsible for the implementation of the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future by
14 all government units operating in the county.

15 (2) **FOR EACH OF FISCAL YEARS 2026 AND 2027, EACH COUNTY**
16 **BOARD SHALL PROVIDE \$150,000 FOR THE SALARY AND BENEFITS OF THE**
17 **IMPLEMENTATION COORDINATOR APPOINTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH**
18 **(1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

19 (3) **FUNDING FOR THE SALARY AND BENEFITS OF THE**
20 **IMPLEMENTATION COORDINATOR PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY BOARD IN**
21 **ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE PAID BY THE**
22 **STATE AND THE COUNTY IN THE SAME PROPORTION AS THE FOUNDATION PROGRAM**
23 **UNDER § 5–213 OF THIS TITLE.**

24 5–410.

25 (a) In addition to its own assessments and tracking of progress, required under §
26 5–406 of this subtitle, the Board shall contract with a public or private entity to conduct an
27 independent evaluation of the State’s progress in implementing the Blueprint for
28 Maryland’s Future and achieving the expected outcomes during the implementation period.

29 (b) The independent evaluation shall include an assessment of:

30 (1) The use of additional funding to meet the goals of the Blueprint for
31 Maryland’s Future;

32 (2) Progress toward the goals of the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future and
33 whether the goals have been achieved; and

1 (3) Any recommendations to alter the goals or strategies employed to reach
2 the goals, including new uses for existing funds or additional funding.

3 (c) (1) An entity with which the Board contracts for an independent evaluation
4 shall report its results to the Board on or before:

5 (i) [October 1, 2024] **DECEMBER 1, 2026**; and

6 (ii) October 1, 2030.

7 (2) The Board shall contract for each independent evaluation as soon as
8 practicable.

9 (d) (1) (i) On or before [December 1, 2024] **JANUARY 15, 2027**, the Board
10 shall, using the first independent evaluation and its own judgment, report to the Governor
11 and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly
12 on whether the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future is being implemented as intended and
13 achieving the expected outcomes.

14 (ii) The Board’s report shall include an assessment of the State’s
15 progress towards:

16 1. Increasing the number of teachers achieving National
17 Board Certification;

18 2. Providing full–day prekindergarten programs for 3– and
19 4–year–olds in accordance with Title 7, Subtitle 1A of this article;

20 3. Improving behavioral health services in accordance with §
21 7–447 of this article; and

22 4. Ensuring that students enrolled in public schools meet
23 college and career standards in accordance with § 7–205.1 of this article.

24 (iii) The Board’s report shall include any legislative or structural
25 corrections necessary to fully implement the Blueprint.

26 (2) On or before December 1, 2030, the Board shall report on the results of
27 the final independent evaluation to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the
28 State Government Article, the General Assembly.

29 (3) The Board’s reports under this subsection shall include:

30 (i) Practices being used to close achievement gaps between students
31 of different groups listed in § 5–408(a)(2)(i) of this subtitle;

1 (ii) Progress made in closing the achievement gaps listed under item
2 (i) of this paragraph; and

3 (iii) Assessments of student outcomes listed under § 5–408(a)(2)(ii) of
4 this subtitle, disaggregated by race, income, ethnicity, and gender.

5 Chapter 36 of the Acts of 2021

6 SECTION 16. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

7 (d) In the independent evaluation and report to be submitted to the Governor and
8 the General Assembly on or before [December 1, 2024] **JANUARY 15, 2027**, as required
9 under § 5–410(d)(1) of the Education Article as enacted by this Act, the Accountability and
10 Implementation Board shall report whether the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future is being
11 implemented as intended and is achieving expected outcomes.

12 (e) (1) If the Accountability and Implementation Board does not report that
13 the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future is being implemented as intended and is achieving
14 expected outcomes in accordance with subsection (d) of this section, then:

15 (i) notwithstanding any other provision of law, per pupil increases
16 in major education aid required under this Act for the fiscal year [2026] **2028** and each
17 year thereafter shall be limited to the rate of inflation, as defined by § 5–201(h) of the
18 Education Article as enacted by this Act;

19 (ii) notwithstanding any other provision of law, any additional
20 funding increases required under this Act shall be limited to the rate of inflation as defined
21 in § 5–201(h) of the Education Article as enacted by this Act; and

22 (iii) subject to subsection (f) of this section and notwithstanding any
23 other provision of law, local school systems are not required to meet the additional
24 requirements of this Act that begin in fiscal year [2026] **2028** and each fiscal year
25 thereafter.

26 (2) If the Accountability and Implementation Board reports that the
27 Blueprint for Maryland’s Future is not being implemented as intended and is not achieving
28 expected outcomes, it is the intent of the General Assembly that the General Assembly
29 shall take immediate action to adjust the formula and policies under this Act to achieve the
30 goals of the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future in order to fulfill the General Assembly’s
31 commitment to provide the resources, supports, and funding to fully implement the
32 Blueprint for Maryland’s Future.

33 (f) A local school system shall continue to fund the requirements of this Act in
34 effect prior to fiscal year [2026] **2028**.

35 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
36 1, 2024.

