

Chapter 424

(Senate Bill 720)

AN ACT concerning

Education – Maryland School for the Blind – Pay Plan

FOR the purpose of requiring a certain pay plan for teachers and professional personnel at the Maryland School for the Blind; requiring the Secretary of Budget and Management to establish the pay plan that includes certain information after considering recommendations by the Board of Directors of the Maryland School for the Blind; requiring the Board to review certain salaries in determining pay plan recommendations; requiring the Board to submit certain recommendations to the Secretary on or before a certain date; requiring the Secretary to adjust the pay plan under certain circumstances; requiring the Board to review certain salaries and make certain recommendations to the Secretary; requiring the Secretary to review certain recommendations prior to a certain occurrence; requiring the Secretary to incorporate certain adjustments into the budget recommendations for the Governor's review and approval for inclusion in the annual budget request; and generally relating to the Maryland School for the Blind.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Education
Section 8–308
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

8–308.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “BOARD” HAS THE MEANING STATE IN § 8–310 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(B) Teachers and any other professional personnel at the Maryland School for the Blind shall be paid an annual salary that is at least equal to the salary received by public school teachers and professional personnel of similar training and experience in Baltimore County.

(C) (1) THERE SHALL BE A SINGLE, UNIFORM PAY PLAN FOR TEACHERS AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL AT THE MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND.

(2) THE PAY PLAN SHALL BE ESTABLISHED BY THE SECRETARY OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT AFTER CONSIDERING RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE BOARD.

(3) THE SECRETARY OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT SHALL INCLUDE IN THE PAY PLAN CLASSIFICATIONS AND PAY GRADES BASED ON THE DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES, EDUCATION, AND TRAINING REQUIRED.

(D) IN DETERMINING ITS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PAY PLAN, THE BOARD, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE FACULTY AND STAFF OF THE MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND, SHALL REVIEW THE SALARIES OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL IN BALTIMORE COUNTY AND SHALL RECOMMEND TO THE SECRETARY OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT SALARIES THAT WILL BE ADEQUATE TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN QUALIFIED TEACHERS AND PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL AT THE MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND.

(E) THE BOARD SHALL PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SECRETARY OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT ON OR BEFORE THE JUNE 1 PRIOR TO THE JULY 1 OF THE FIRST FISCAL YEAR IN WHICH THE PAY PLAN WILL TAKE EFFECT.

(F) BEGINNING WITH THE THIRD FISCAL YEAR THE PAY PLAN IS IN EFFECT AND IN EVERY THIRD FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE SECRETARY OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT SHALL ADJUST THE PAY PLAN, IF NECESSARY, TO ENSURE THAT SALARIES IN THE PAY PLAN ARE ADEQUATE TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN QUALIFIED TEACHERS AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL.

(G) ON OR BEFORE THE SEPTEMBER 1 PRECEDING THE BEGINNING OF THE FISCAL YEAR FOR WHICH ADJUSTMENTS TO THE PAY PLAN MAY BE MADE UNDER THIS SECTION, THE BOARD SHALL REVIEW THE SALARIES OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL IN BALTIMORE COUNTY AND SHALL RECOMMEND ADJUSTMENTS TO THE PAY PLAN TO THE SECRETARY OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT.

(H) THE SECRETARY OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT SHALL REVIEW THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD PRIOR TO MAKING ADJUSTMENTS TO THE PAY PLAN AUTHORIZED BY THIS SECTION.

(I) THE SECRETARY OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT SHALL INCORPORATE THESE ADJUSTMENTS INTO THE BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GOVERNOR'S REVIEW AND APPROVAL FOR INCLUSION IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET REQUEST.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 30, 2021.