

Chapter 141

**(House Bill 1503)**

AN ACT concerning

**Adult Education – GED Testing Fees – Exemption for Homeless Youth**

FOR the purpose of exempting certain homeless youth from certain GED testing fees under certain circumstances; requiring the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation to verify a certain individual's status as a homeless youth; authorizing the Department to use certain individuals to verify a certain individual's status as a homeless youth; requiring the Department to adopt certain regulations; defining a certain term; and generally relating to GED testing fees for homeless youth.

BY adding to

Article – Labor and Employment

Section 11–809

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2008 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

**Article – Labor and Employment**

**11–809.**

**(A) IN THIS SECTION, “HOMELESS YOUTH” HAS THE SAME MEANING AS PROVIDED IN THE FEDERAL MCKINNEY–VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT.**

**(B) AN INDIVIDUAL IS EXEMPT FROM PAYING GED TESTING FEES IF:**

**(1) THE INDIVIDUAL IS A HOMELESS YOUTH;**

**(2) THE INDIVIDUAL HAS HAD A CONSISTENT PRESENCE IN THE STATE FOR AT LEAST 1 YEAR BEFORE THE INDIVIDUAL APPLIES TO TAKE THE GED TEST, AS EVIDENCED BY SCHOOL, EMPLOYMENT, OR OTHER RECORDS; AND**

**(3) THE DEPARTMENT VERIFIES THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS A HOMELESS YOUTH.**

**(C) THE DEPARTMENT MAY USE THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO VERIFY THAT AN INDIVIDUAL IS A HOMELESS YOUTH:**

**(1) A HOMELESS LIAISON FROM A LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM THAT THE INDIVIDUAL ATTENDED;**

**(2) A DIRECTOR OR A DESIGNEE OF THE DIRECTOR OF A PROGRAM IN THE STATE FUNDED UNDER THE RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH ACT; OR**

**(3) A DIRECTOR OR A DESIGNEE OF THE DIRECTOR OF A PROGRAM IN THE STATE FUNDED UNDER TITLE IV, SUBTITLE B OF THE MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT.**

**(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2016.

**Approved by the Governor, April 12, 2016.**