

HOUSE BILL 97

F1, J1, F5

01r0398

By: **Delegates McConkey, Benson, Costa, Krysiak, Montgomery, Pena–Melnyk, Stukes, Stull, V. Turner, and Jenkins**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2010

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Hearing and Vision Screenings**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring certain parents or legal guardians of certain students to
4 ensure that certain screenings take place before certain students enter certain
5 school systems; requiring certain county boards of education to develop certain
6 procedures to determine compliance with certain requirements; and generally
7 relating to hearing and vision screenings for public school students.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
9 Article – Education
10 Section 7–404(a) and (b)(1)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

13 BY adding to
14 Article – Education
15 Section 7–404.1
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Education**

21 7–404.

22 (a) (1) Each county board or county health department shall provide
23 hearing and vision screenings for all students in the public schools.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) Each county health department shall provide and fund hearing
2 and vision screenings for all students:

3 (i) In any private school that has received a certificate of
4 approval under § 2-206 of this article; and

5 (ii) In any nonpublic educational facility in this State approved
6 as a special education facility by the Department.

7 (b) (1) Unless evidence is presented that a student has been tested within
8 the past year, the screenings required under subsection (a) of this section shall be
9 given in the year that a student enters a school system, enters the first grade, and
10 enters the eighth or ninth grade.

11 **7-404.1.**

12 **(A) BEFORE ENTERING A PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, THE PARENT OR**
13 **LEGAL GUARDIAN OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT SHALL ENSURE THAT THE**
14 **STUDENT HAS BEEN SCREENED FOR HEARING AND VISION PROBLEMS.**

15 **(B) EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL DEVELOP A PROCEDURE TO**
16 **DETERMINE COMPLIANCE WITH SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2010.