

HOUSE BILL 799

F1
HB 1240/22 – APP

3lr2441
CF 3lr3092

By: **Delegates Ghrist, Jacobs, Buckel, Griffith, T. Morgan, Otto, and Tomlinson**
Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2023
Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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

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

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Education

10 Section 5–244

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2022 Replacement Volume)

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 **5–244.**

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 2025, \$1.06;**

6 **(II) IN FISCAL YEAR 2026, \$1.27; AND**

7 **(III) IN FISCAL YEAR 2027, \$2.34.**

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

10 **(B) FOR EACH OF FISCAL YEARS 2025 THROUGH 2027, FOR EACH ELIGIBLE**
11 **COUNTY, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN**
12 **APPROPRIATION IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE LOW-DENSITY CALCULATION FOR**
13 **THE COUNTY.**

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
15 1, 2023. It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of June 30, 2028,
16 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and
17 of no further force and effect.