

CHAPTER 374
(House Bill 245)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 241 of Article 77 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Supplement), title "Public Education," subtitle "Chapter 23. School Attendance," to ~~increase~~ CHANGE the per student monetary grant by the State to the political subdivisions for the education and care of handicapped children.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland.* That Section 241 of Article 77 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1965 Supplement), title "Public Education," subtitle Chapter 23. School Attendance," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

241.

(a) It shall be the duty of the State Board of Education, to set up standards, rules and regulations for the examination, classification and education of such handicapped children in the counties of the State who can be benefited under the provisions of this subtitle; such standards, rules and regulations to include the prescribing of qualifications of teachers, the curriculum and equipment, and the supervision of the program which may be inaugurated by the county board of education for each such handicapped child. The expenses incurred by any of the counties of the State in establishing special classes for mentally or physically handicapped children in accordance with standards, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education shall be paid in the same manner as the ordinary expenses for the support of schools in the several counties of the State; provided that in calculating the cost of the minimum program as a basis for determining the amount of the State's share of current expenses which a county is entitled to receive, each professional staff member employed in this work shall be included as an allowed professional staff member in making the calculation.

(b) Wherever the City of Baltimore or any of the counties of the State shall inaugurate a special program of instruction under standards, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, to meet the needs of any child whose handicap is physical or mental and whose needs are not met by ordinary school facilities, the city or counties so providing the same shall be entitled to receive, toward the cost of teachers, special equipment, nursing, therapeutic treatment, and transportation, an amount NOT TO EXCEED SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$600.00) ~~not to exceed [six hundred dollars]~~ ~~\$2,300.00~~ per child EXCEPT IN SPECIAL CASES WHERE A CHILD REQUIRES THERAPY OR SERVICES IN ADDITION TO SPECIAL INSTRUCTION THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF REIMBURSEMENT TO THE CITY OR COUNTY FOR SUCH THERAPY, SERVICES, AND INSTRUCTION FOR SUCH CHILD AND SUCH AMOUNT MAY EXCEED SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$600.00), to be paid by the State of Maryland out of a special fund to be appropriated for such purpose in the State public school budget. The State Superin-