Chapter 498

(Senate Bill 419)

AN ACT concerning

Libraries – Maryland Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped – Funding

FOR the purpose of authorizing the State Department of Education to include operating funds for the Maryland Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped in its budget; requiring the Maryland Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped to receive a certain amount of funding each year <u>beginning in a certain fiscal year</u>; requiring the Department to disburse funds to the Maryland Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped; and generally relating to funding for the Maryland Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Education
Section 23–205
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

23–205.

(a) Each year, the Department may include in its budget operating funds for:

(1) The State Library Resource Center;

(2) Each regional resource center; **[**and**]**

(3) THE MARYLAND LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED; AND

[(3)**] (4)** Each metropolitan cooperative service program.

(b) (1) The State shall pay all capital expenses for:

(i) The State Library Resource Center; and

(ii)   Each regional resource center.

(2)   Before any money is spent under this subsection, the appropriate board of library trustees shall:

(i)   Have the project approved by the Department;

(ii)   Through the Department, submit the request to the Department of Budget and Management for consideration under Title 3, Subtitle 6 of the State Finance and Procurement Article; and

(iii)   Agree to reimburse the Department an amount the Department determines if the facility ceases to be used for a resource center or cooperative service program.

(c)   (1)   Each year each participating regional resource center shall receive a minimum amount of funding for each resident of the area served, to be used for operating and capital expenses.

(2)   The allocation shall be calculated as follows:

(i)   For each of fiscal years 2011 through 2016............$6.75 per each resident of the area served;

(ii)   For fiscal year 2017............$7.00 per each resident of the area served;

(iii)   For fiscal year 2018............$7.25 per each resident of the area served; and

(iv)   For fiscal year 2019 and each fiscal year thereafter............$7.50 per each resident of the area served.

(d)   (1)   Each year the State Library Resource Center shall receive a minimum amount of funding for each State resident in the previous fiscal year, to be used for operating and capital expenses.

(2)   The allocation shall be calculated as follows:

(i)   For each of fiscal years 2010 through 2016............$1.67 per State resident;

(ii)   For fiscal year 2017............$1.73 per State resident;

(iii)   For fiscal year 2018............$1.79 per State resident; and

(iv)   For   fiscal   year   2019   and   each   fiscal   year thereafter............$1.85 per State resident.

(e)   **E̶A̶C̶H̶** **BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2016 AND IN EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE MARYLAND LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED SHALL RECEIVE AN AMOUNT EQUIVALENT TO AT LEAST 25% OF THE AMOUNT RECEIVED BY THE STATE LIBRARY RESOURCE CENTER FOR THE SAME FISCAL YEAR UNDER SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION.**

(F)   (1)   The Department shall:

(i)   Disburse funds to the State and regional resource centers, **THE MARYLAND LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED,** and metropolitan cooperative service programs; and

(ii)   Require that these funds be used subject to any conditions specified by the appropriating agency or imposed under this subtitle.

(2)   The Department may authorize the State Comptroller to withhold funds from any regional resource center or metropolitan cooperative service program that fails to meet the standards adopted by the Department.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2014.

Approved by the Governor, May 15, 2014.