HOUSE BILL 1220

By: Delegate Haynes
Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2012
Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Secondary Education – Electronic Reader Pilot Program in Baltimore City

FOR the purpose of establishing the Electronic Reader Pilot Program to be implemented in middle and high schools in Baltimore City; requiring the Chief Executive Officer of the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners to award a grant to the Board for implementation of the Pilot Program; providing for the purpose of the Pilot Program; requiring the Chief Executive Officer and a certain organization to develop a plan to implement the Pilot Program; requiring the plan to meet certain requirements; providing for the funding of the Pilot Program; requiring the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners to submit a certain report on or before a certain date and including certain information; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the Electronic Reader Pilot Program in Baltimore City.

BY adding to
Article – Education
Section 7–10B–01 through 7–10B–08 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 10B. Electronic Reader Pilot Program in Baltimore City”
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2008 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

Subtitle 10B. Electronic Reader Pilot Program in Baltimore City.

7–10B–01.
(A) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(B) “Chief Executive Officer” means the Chief Executive Officer of the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners.

(C) “Electronic reader” means a device with wireless connectivity for downloading reading content, including books, newspapers, and periodicals.

(D) “Pilot Program” means the Electronic Reader Pilot Program in Baltimore City.

(E) “Pilot Program provider” means a nonprofit organization that, as determined by the Chief Executive Officer of the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners:

1. Exclusively focuses on the improvement of performance management and the use of technology for other nonprofit organizations and schools;

2. Has demonstrated experience in providing a range of assistance to nonprofit community–based organizations and schools, including:
   (I) Assessing performance and the use of technology; and
   (II) Developing and implementing recommendations to improve performance and the use of technology;

3. Has demonstrated the ability to identify areas for program improvement related to the use of technology in classrooms and by administrators;

4. Has demonstrated the ability to develop an implementation plan for recommended improvements;

5. Has demonstrated the ability to assist with and provide on–site, hands–on guidance with the implementation of the recommendations; and
HAS DEMONSTRATED THE ABILITY TO CREATE AN ONLINE COMMUNITY THAT ALLOWS TEACHERS, PARENTS, POLICYMAKERS, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS TO COMMUNICATE AND PROVIDE SUPPORT DURING AND FOLLOWING THE ASSESSMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS.

7-10B-02.

THERE IS AN ELECTRONIC READER PILOT PROGRAM IN BALTIMORE CITY.

7-10B-03.

THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IS TO MAKE AVAILABLE TO MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN BALTIMORE CITY REQUIRED READING LISTS AND READING LIST MATERIALS ON ELECTRONIC READERS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE LIBRARY STAFF OF THE MIDDLE SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOLS.

7-10B-04.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 7-10B-05 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND THE PILOT PROGRAM PROVIDER, SELECTED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SHALL DEVELOP A PLAN TO IMPLEMENT THE PILOT PROGRAM IN MIDDLE SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOLS IN BALTIMORE CITY.

7-10B-05.

THE PLAN TO IMPLEMENT THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL BE DESIGNED TO:

(1) BE CAPABLE OF BEING IMPLEMENTED AT A REASONABLE COST;

(2) ENCOURAGE AND DEVELOP STUDENTS’ FAMILIARITY WITH ELECTRONIC READERS AND TRAIN TEACHERS TO INTEGRATE THE USE OF ELECTRONIC READERS INTO THEIR CURRICULUM;

(3) ADD TO THE INCREASED PERFORMANCE OF THE STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE PILOT PROGRAM; AND

(4) PROVIDE STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION INDICATORS THAT ILLUSTRATE HOW TEACHERS’ FAMILIARITY WITH ELECTRONIC READERS AND THE TEACHING RESOURCES THAT MAY BE UTILIZED WITH ELECTRONIC
READERS INCREASES THE PERFORMANCE OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE
PILOT PROGRAM.

7–10B–06.

ON APPROVAL OF THE PLAN TO IMPLEMENT THE PILOT PROGRAM INTO
THE BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE
OFFICER, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER SHALL PROVIDE A GRANT TO THE
BALTIMORE CITY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS TO IMPLEMENT THE
PILOT PROGRAM.

7–10B–07.

FUNDING FOR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO CARRY OUT THE
PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

7–10B–08.

THE BALTIMORE CITY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS SHALL ISSUE
A REPORT ON THE STATUS OF, AND THE BENEFITS ACCRUED FROM, THE PILOT
PROGRAM, TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2–1246 OF THE
STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WITHIN 2 YEARS
FROM THE DATE THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AWARDS A GRANT TO THE
BOARD UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
July 1, 2012.