



Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D.  
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street • Baltimore, MD 21201 • 410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD • MarylandPublicSchools.org

September 3, 2013

The Honorable Sheila E. Hixson, Chairman  
House Ways and Means Committee  
Lowe House Office Building, Room 131  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: Enhanced Program – Maryland School for the Blind (MSAR #93)

Dear Chairman Hixson:

Section §8-315 of the Education Article requires the Maryland School for the Blind (MSB) to establish and operate a program of enhanced services for blind students who have other severe disabilities. The students served in the Enhanced Program shall be students who are at risk of requiring nonpublic placement in an out-of-state special education facility. The State pays the cost of serving students in the Enhanced Program based on an individual cost sheet on file at the MSDE.

Pursuant to Section §8-315 of the Education Article, the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) shall report to the budget committees, the House Ways and Means Committee, and the Senate Finance Committee on or before September 1 of each year on the number of students enrolled in the Enhanced Program of the Maryland School for the Blind (MSB) and the annual costs for the program. In addition, the Department shall report on any anticipated enrollment growth and future costs related to the Enhanced Program.

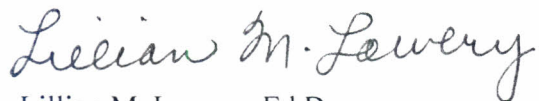
Attached is a report of the number of students enrolled and the annual costs of the Enhanced Program at the MSB for school year 2012-2013. The preliminary data for the current school year, 2013-2014, reflects projected enrollment of 68 students at a cost of \$3,950,717 (\$237,566 in local costs and \$3,713,151 in State costs). The Enhanced Program’s projected enrollment for the 2013-2014 school year increases by 2 students from the previous school year at an increase in State cost of \$453,878.

School Year	Enrollment	Costs		
		Local	State	Total
2012-2013	66	\$265,671	\$3,259,276	\$3,524,947
2013-2014 (projected)	68	\$237,566	\$3,713,151	\$3,950,717
Difference	2	(\$28,105)	\$453,875	\$425,770

The Honorable Sheila E. Hixson, Chairman  
House Ways and Means Committee  
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Should you have any questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact Marcella E. Franczkowski, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services. She may be reached at (410) 767-0238. We look forward to our continued partnership in our vision to create a comprehensive and coordinated system of services for children with disabilities, birth through 21 years of age and their families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lillian M. Lowery".

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State Superintendent of Schools

LML/MEF

c: The Honorable Martin O'Malley  
The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller  
The Honorable Michael E. Busch



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September 3, 2013

The Honorable Norman H. Conway, Chairman  
House Appropriates Committee  
Lowe House Office Building, Room 121  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: Enhanced Program – Maryland School for the Blind (MSAR #93)

Dear Chairman Conway:

Section §8-315 of the Education Article requires the Maryland School for the Blind (MSB) to establish and operate a program of enhanced services for blind students who have other severe disabilities. The students served in the Enhanced Program shall be students who are at risk of requiring nonpublic placement in an out-of-state special education facility. The State pays the cost of serving students in the Enhanced Program based on an individual cost sheet on file at the MSDE.

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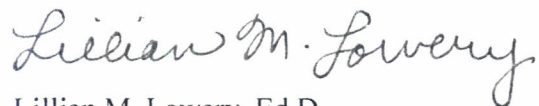
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The Honorable Thomas M. Middleton, Chairman  
Senate Finance Committee  
3 East Miller Senate Building  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: Enhanced Program – Maryland School for the Blind (MSAR #93)

Dear Chairman Middleton:

Section §8-315 of the Education Article requires the Maryland School for the Blind (MSB) to establish and operate a program of enhanced services for blind students who have other severe disabilities. The students served in the Enhanced Program shall be students who are at risk of requiring nonpublic placement in an out-of-state special education facility. The State pays the cost of serving students in the Enhanced Program based on an individual cost sheet on file at the MSDE.

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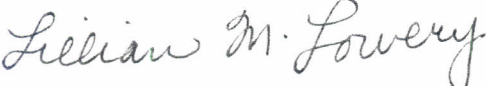
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September 3, 2013

The Honorable Edward J. Kasemeyer, Chairman  
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
3 West Miller Senate Building  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: Enhanced Program – Maryland School for the Blind (MSAR #93)

Dear Chairman Kasemeyer:

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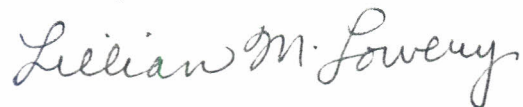
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