



Mohammed Choudhury
State Superintendent of Schools

July 1, 2023

The Honorable Wes Moore
Governor
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable William Ferguson
H-107 State House
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones
H-101 State House
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

Re: Education Article §7-1303, MSAR #7598, and Executive Order 01.01.2010.09, MSAR #8880 - Interstate Commission on Educational Opportunity for Military Children Report

Dear Governor Moore, President Ferguson, and Speaker Jones:

Pursuant to §7-1303 of the Education Article (MSAR #7598) and Executive Order 01.01.2010.09 (MSAR #8880), the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) shall report annually to the Governor, the Maryland General Assembly, Judiciary, and State Council of the member states concerning the activities of the Interstate Commission on Educational Opportunity for Military Children during the preceding year. Such reports shall also include any recommendations that may have been adopted by the Interstate Commission. Maryland adopted the Compact in 2009 when the Maryland General Assembly added the Compact provisions to the Maryland Code.

The Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) is the national organization leading the work on educational opportunities for military children. MIC3 is proud that all 50 states and the District of Columbia are members of the Interstate Compact. The Interstate Compact ensures the uniform treatment of military children transferring between states. It was developed by the Council of State Governments' National Center for Interstate Compacts, the U.S. Department of Defense, national associations, federal and state officials, the Department of Education of each State, school administrators, and military families.

Military children face many challenges as the military family transfers from one assignment to the next. The average military student faces transition more than twice during high school and most military children will attend six to nine different schools from kindergarten to 12th grade. The Compact seeks to make the transition easier for children of military families to ensure that they are afforded the same opportunities for educational success as other children and are not penalized or delayed in achieving their educational goals.

In accordance with the requirement of the Education Article to report on the work of the Interstate Compact, please find attached the following:

- MIC3 one-page summary of the Interstate Compact
- MIC3 Annual Report 2022
- Strategic Plan 2023-2025
- Agenda for the October 19-20, 2022, Annual Business Meeting of the MIC3
- Agenda and Minutes for the June 8, 2023, Maryland State Council Meeting

Maryland was represented at the Annual Business Meeting and the Executive Committee Meetings by Mary L. Gable, Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Student Support, Academic Enrichment, and Educational Policy, Maryland State Department of Education. Ms. Gable is the Maryland State Commissioner and the Chairperson of the MIC3 Rules Committee. As Commissioner, Ms. Gable annually shares information on the Interstate Compact with the Directors of Student Services, Coordinators of School Counselors across the 24 local education agencies (LEAs), and other groups. Ms. Gable assists families and the LEAs when there are challenges in a student's transition.

Dr. Cheryl Dyson, Superintendent, Frederick County Public Schools, represented the Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland (PSSAM) at the State Council on June 8, 2023, and plans to share the information on the Compact with all local Superintendents.

Information on the accomplishments of the Military Interstate Compact Commission can be found in the attached 2022 Annual Report. Also attached are copies of the agenda and minutes of the June 8, 2023, meeting of Maryland's State Council for the Interstate Compact. Each state must have a State Council that meets annually.

The Interstate Compact operates under rules that were adopted by the Compact and each state. In order to make these rules available, a Compact Rules Desk Reference is available for each Commissioner. A copy of the rules can be found at: <https://mic3.net/publications/>. The Compact Rules document was thoroughly reviewed and updated as needed by the MIC3 Rules Committee and presented at the Annual Business Meeting in October, 2022.

The Chairperson of the Commission continues to communicate through a monthly newsletter with each State Commissioner and Ex-Officio member of MIC3. A question considered by every State Council this year was the addition to the Compact of National Guard and reserve dependents beyond those under Title

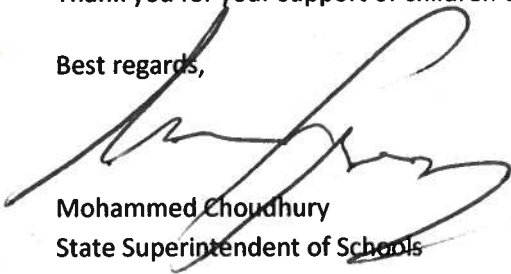
10 active-duty status. Also discussed was a technical correction needed for every state's Compact language. The need for the technical correction is being discussed by every State Council.

As a member of the Compact, Maryland's dues for FY 2023 were \$22,609 based on 19,660 military students.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Dr. Akilah Alleyne, Executive Director, Government Affairs, Education Policy, and External Relations by email at akilah.alleyne@maryland.gov or by telephone at 410-767-0504. You may find additional information on the MIC3 website: <https://mic3.net/>.

Thank you for your support of children of military families who attend Maryland schools.

Best regards,



Mohammed Choudhury
State Superintendent of Schools

MC/mlg

Enclosures:

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Cc: Sarah T. Albert, Mandated Reports Specialist, Department of Legislative Services (5 copies)