

# HOUSE BILL 620

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5lr1357

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By: **Delegate Atterbeary**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2025

Assigned to: Judiciary and Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Primary and Secondary Education – Reportable Offense – Alteration**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of a reportable offense for students to include  
4 only references to offenses defined as crimes of violence; and generally relating to  
5 reporting of arrests of students for reportable offenses.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article – Education  
8 Section 7–303  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Education**

14 7–303.

15 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

16 (2) “Criminal organization” has the meaning stated in § 9–801 of the  
17 Criminal Law Article.

18 (3) “Law enforcement agency” means the law enforcement agencies listed  
19 in § 1–101(c) of the Public Safety Article.

20 (4) “Local school system” means the schools and school programs under the  
21 supervision of the local superintendent.

22 (5) “Local superintendent” means:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (i) The county superintendent, for the county in which a student is  
2 enrolled, or a designee of the superintendent, who is an administrator; or
- 3 (ii) The superintendent of schools for the:
- 4 1. Archdiocese of Baltimore;
- 5 2. Archdiocese of Washington; and
- 6 3. Catholic Diocese of Wilmington.
- 7 (6) “Reportable offense” means an offense that:
- 8 (i) Occurred off school premises;
- 9 (ii) Did not occur at an event sponsored by the school; and
- 10 (iii) Involved [any of the following:
- 11 1. A] A crime of violence, as defined in § 14–101 of the  
12 Criminal Law Article[;
- 13 2. Any of the offenses enumerated in § 3–8A–03(e)(4) of the  
14 Courts Article;
- 15 3. A violation of § 4–101, § 4–102, § 4–203, or § 4–204 of the  
16 Criminal Law Article;
- 17 4. A violation of § 5–602, § 5–603, § 5–604, § 5–605, § 5–606,  
18 § 5–607, § 5–608, § 5–608.1, § 5–609, § 5–612, § 5–613, § 5–614, § 5–617, § 5–618, § 5–627,  
19 or § 5–628 of the Criminal Law Article;
- 20 5. A violation of § 4–503, § 9–504, or § 9–505 of the Criminal  
21 Law Article;
- 22 6. A violation of § 6–102, § 6–103, § 6–104, or § 6–105 of the  
23 Criminal Law Article;
- 24 7. A violation of § 9–802 or § 9–803 of the Criminal Law  
25 Article;
- 26 8. A violation of § 3–203 of the Criminal Law Article;
- 27 9. A violation of § 6–301 of the Criminal Law Article;

1                                   10.    A violation of § 9–302, § 9–303, or § 9–305 of the Criminal  
2 Law Article;

3                                   11.    A violation of § 7–105 of the Criminal Law Article;

4                                   12.    A violation of § 6–202 of the Criminal Law Article; or

5                                   13.    A violation of § 10–606 of the Criminal Law Article].

6                   (7)    “School principal” means the principal of the public or nonpublic school  
7 in which a student is enrolled, or a designee of the principal, who is an administrator.

8                   (8)    (i)    “School security officer” includes a school principal, another  
9 school administrator, a law enforcement officer, or other individual employed by a local  
10 school system or a local government who is designated by the county superintendent or a  
11 school principal to help maintain the security and safety of a school.

12                                   (ii)   “School security officer” does not include a teacher.

13                   (9)    “Student” means an individual enrolled in a public school system or  
14 nonpublic school in the State who is 5 years of age or older and under 22 years of age.

15                   (b)    If a student is arrested for a reportable offense or an offense that is related to  
16 the student’s membership in a criminal organization, the law enforcement agency making  
17 the arrest:

18                                   (1)    Shall notify the following individuals of the arrest and the charges  
19 within 24 hours of the arrest or as soon as practicable:

20                                   (i)    The local superintendent;

21                                   (ii)   The school principal; and

22                                   (iii)  For a school that has a school security officer, the school security  
23 officer; and

24                                   (2)   May notify the State’s Attorney of the arrest and charges.

25                   (c)    The State’s Attorney shall promptly notify either the local superintendent or  
26 the school principal of the disposition of the reportable offense required to be reported under  
27 subsection (b) of this section.

28                   (d)    Except by order of a juvenile court or other court upon good cause shown, the  
29 information obtained by an individual pursuant to subsections (b) and (c) of this section:

30                                   (1)    Is confidential and may not be redisclosed by subpoena or otherwise  
31 except as provided pursuant to subsections (e) and (f) of this section; and

1 (2) May not be made part of the student's permanent educational record.

2 (e) (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (d) of this section, nothing  
3 shall prohibit a local superintendent or school principal from transmitting the information  
4 obtained pursuant to subsections (b) and (c) of this section as a confidential file to the local  
5 superintendent of another public school system in the State or another nonpublic school in  
6 the State in which the student has enrolled or been transferred in order to carry out the  
7 purposes of this section if the disposition of the reportable offense was a conviction or an  
8 adjudication of delinquency or the criminal charge or delinquency petition is still pending.

9 (2) A local superintendent or school principal who transmits information  
10 about a student under this subsection shall include in the transmittal information  
11 regarding any educational programming and related services provided to the student.

12 (f) The State Board shall adopt regulations to ensure that information obtained  
13 by a local superintendent, a school principal, or a school security officer under subsections  
14 (b), (c), and (e) of this section is:

15 (1) Used to provide appropriate educational programming and related  
16 services to the student and to maintain a safe and secure school environment for students  
17 and school personnel;

18 (2) Transmitted only to school personnel of the school in which the student  
19 is enrolled as necessary to carry out the purposes set forth in item (1) of this subsection;  
20 and

21 (3) Destroyed when the student graduates or otherwise permanently  
22 leaves school or turns 22 years old, whichever occurs first.

23 (g) (1) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the  
24 local superintendent and the school principal shall consider prohibiting a student who is  
25 arrested for a reportable offense involving rape or a sexual offense from attending the same  
26 school or riding on the same school bus as the alleged victim of the reportable offense if  
27 such action is necessary or appropriate to protect the physical or psychological well-being  
28 of the alleged victim.

29 (2) If a student is arrested for a reportable offense involving rape or a  
30 sexual offense and is convicted of or adjudicated delinquent for the rape or sexual offense,  
31 the student may not attend the same school or ride on the same school bus as the victim.

32 (h) Nothing in this section is intended to limit the manner in which a local school  
33 obtains information or uses information obtained by any lawful means other than that set  
34 forth in subsections (b), (c), and (e) of this section.

35 (i) Each public school that enrolls students in grades six through twelve in the  
36 State shall designate at least one school security officer.

1 (j) (1) On or before December 30 each year, the Department, in accordance  
2 with State and federal privacy laws, shall submit to the Governor and, in accordance with  
3 § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly a report that includes the  
4 following information about each reportable offense for which a local school received  
5 information under subsection (b) of this section in the preceding school year:

6 (i) The nature of the reportable offense;

7 (ii) Verification that the offense occurred off school premises;

8 (iii) Action taken by the local school and county board after being  
9 notified of the reportable offense;

10 (iv) The race, ethnicity, gender, and disability status of the student  
11 arrested for the reportable offense;

12 (v) The grade of the student arrested for the reportable offense;

13 (vi) The regular school program of the student arrested for the  
14 reportable offense;

15 (vii) Whether the student's regular school program was altered as a  
16 result of the reportable offense;

17 (viii) If the student was removed from the student's regular school  
18 program as a result of the reportable offense:

19 1. The amount of time during which the student was  
20 removed; and

21 2. The student's placement and educational programming  
22 during the period of removal; and

23 (ix) If removed from the student's regular school program, the  
24 student's academic performance during the time period the student was removed, including  
25 attendance, grades, and standardized test scores, and any additional disciplinary actions.

26 (2) Each county board and public school shall provide the Department with  
27 any information necessary to issue its report in accordance with this section.

28 (k) If a student is removed or excluded from the student's regular school program  
29 for a reportable offense, the principal or county superintendent shall invite the student's  
30 attorney, if the student has an attorney, to participate in the conference between the  
31 student or the student's parent or guardian and the principal or county superintendent,  
32 and the manifestation determination review, if applicable.

1           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
2 1, 2025.