

# HOUSE BILL 771

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HB 167/24 – W&M

5lr1191

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By: **Delegate Harrison**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Student Health – Program for Student Dental Health – Established**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring, beginning in a certain school year, certain students to submit  
4 a certificate of dental health to their school on a certain schedule; requiring the  
5 Maryland Department of Health to establish a program for student dental health;  
6 requiring the Department to develop a certificate of dental health for use in public  
7 schools; and generally relating to a program for student dental health.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Education

10 Section 7–402.1

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

13 BY adding to

14 Article – Health – General

15 Section 20–2302 to be under the amended subtitle “Subtitle 23. Dental Health  
16 Programs”

17 Annotated Code of Maryland

18 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – Education**

22 **7–402.1.**

23 **BEGINNING IN THE 2027–2028 SCHOOL YEAR, EACH STUDENT ENROLLED IN A**  
24 **PUBLIC ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL IN THE STATE SHALL SUBMIT TO THE**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 SCHOOL A CERTIFICATE OF DENTAL HEALTH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROGRAM  
2 FOR STUDENT DENTAL HEALTH ESTABLISHED UNDER § 20-2302 OF THE HEALTH –  
3 GENERAL ARTICLE, ON A SCHEDULE ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

4 **Article – Health – General**

5 Subtitle 23. [Plain Language] Dental HEALTH [Information] PROGRAMS.

6 **20-2302.**

7 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A PROGRAM FOR STUDENT  
8 DENTAL HEALTH.

9 (B) THE DEPARTMENT'S PROGRAM SHALL INCLUDE:

10 (1) STANDARDS FOR THE PERIODIC DENTAL EXAMINATIONS OF  
11 STUDENTS;

12 (2) THE CREATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF DENTAL HEALTH THAT CAN  
13 BE USED BY PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 7-402.1 OF THE EDUCATION  
14 ARTICLE;

15 (3) THE CREATION OF A STANDARD FORM TO BE USED BY HEALTH  
16 CARE PRACTITIONERS, PARENTS, AND SCHOOLS TO CERTIFY A STUDENT'S DENTAL  
17 HEALTH; AND

18 (4) INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS ON:

19 (i) HOW TO FIND INSURANCE THAT WILL COVER DENTAL  
20 HEALTH CARE;

21 (ii) LISTS OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTS LOCATED IN AREAS; AND

22 (iii) THE IMPORTANCE OF DENTAL HEALTH TO A STUDENT'S  
23 OVERALL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING.

24 (C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT ITS PROGRAM ON A SCHEDULE  
25 THAT ALLOWS EACH STUDENT TO SUBMIT A CERTIFICATE OF DENTAL HEALTH TO  
26 THE STUDENT'S PUBLIC SCHOOL BEGINNING IN THE 2027-2028 SCHOOL YEAR, IN  
27 ACCORDANCE WITH § 7-402.1 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE.

28 (D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS  
29 SECTION.

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