

## Chapter 604

(Senate Bill 867)

AN ACT concerning

### State Department of Education – Oral Health Education – ~~Certification and Monitoring~~

FOR the purpose of ~~requiring certain county superintendents to make certain certifications regarding oral health education on or before a certain date each year;~~ requiring the State Department of Education to support and facilitate certain oral health education ~~and~~, develop a process to monitor certain implementation of certain education, and submit a certain summary to the Governor and General Assembly on or before a certain date; requiring the State Board of Education to encourage certain county boards of education to incorporate certain lessons into certain curriculum; requiring the Department to report certain information to the Governor and General Assembly on or before a certain date each year; and generally relating to oral health education in the State.

BY adding to

Article – Education

Section 4-111.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2008 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Education

Section ~~7-401(a)~~ 7-411.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2008 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

### Preamble

WHEREAS, Tooth decay is the single most common chronic childhood disease and over 50% of children aged 5 to 9 years old have at least one cavity or filling; and

WHEREAS, Pain and suffering due to untreated dental diseases can lead to problems eating, speaking, and attending to learning; and

WHEREAS, Safe and effective measures exist to prevent the most common dental diseases such as tooth decay and periodontal diseases; now, therefore,

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

**Article – Education**

**4-111.1.**

~~(A) IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 7-401 OF THIS ARTICLE, ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, EACH COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT SHALL CERTIFY TO THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT THAT ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION, INCLUDING ORAL DISEASE PREVENTION AND DENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION, IS BEING TAUGHT IN THE COUNTY.~~

~~(B)~~ **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

**(1) SUPPORT AND FACILITATE ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION, INCLUDING ORAL DISEASE PREVENTION AND DENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION, IN EVERY COUNTY; ~~AND~~**

**(2) DEVELOP A PROCESS TO MONITOR IMPLEMENTATION OF ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION ~~AS CERTIFIED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION; AND~~**

**(3) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, ~~2012~~ 2015, AND EVERY 5 YEARS THEREAFTER, SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, SUBJECT TO § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION REPORTED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT DURING THE CERTIFICATION OF THE HEALTH EDUCATION STATE CURRICULUM.**

~~(C) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, SUBJECT TO § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, REGARDING THE MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION IN THE STATE.~~

~~7-401.~~

~~(a) With the assistance of the county health department, each county board shall provide:~~

~~(1) Adequate school health services;~~

~~(2) Instruction in health education, including the importance of physical activity, **ORAL DISEASE PREVENTION, AND DENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION** in maintaining good health; and~~

~~(3) A healthful school environment.~~

7-411.1.

The State Board shall encourage the county boards to incorporate age-appropriate lessons on dating violence, **ORAL DISEASE PREVENTION, AND DENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION** into the county boards' health education curriculum.

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

**Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2012.**