

SENATE BILL 934

F1

2lr3226

By: **Senator Ready**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2022

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **County Boards of Education – Face Coverings – Authority to Require Use**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting the State Department of Education from requiring any
4 student or school staff to wear a face covering in certain school facilities in the State;
5 authorizing a county board of education to determine whether to require students
6 and school staff to wear face coverings in school facilities in the county; and generally
7 relating to face coverings in public schools.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Education

10 Section 7–450

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Education**

16 **7–450.**

17 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
18 **INDICATED.**

19 **(2) “FACE COVERING” MEANS MATERIAL THAT COVERS THE NOSE**
20 **AND MOUTH TO PREVENT RESPIRATORY DROPLETS FROM BEING EXPELLED INTO**
21 **THE AIR AND THAT:**

22 **(I) IS SECURED TO THE HEAD, INCLUDING WITH TIES OR EAR**
23 **LOOPS;**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(II) FITS SNUGLY BUT COMFORTABLY AGAINST THE SIDE OF**
2 **THE FACE;**

3 **(III) IS EITHER MANUFACTURED OR HOMEMADE; AND**

4 **(IV) IS A SOLID PIECE OF MATERIAL WITHOUT SLITS,**
5 **EXHALATION VALVES, OR PUNCTURES.**

6 **(3) “SCHOOL FACILITY” MEANS A BUILDING OR AN ENCLOSED**
7 **STRUCTURE THAT IS OWNED, LEASED, OR OPERATED BY A COUNTY BOARD OR**
8 **PUBLIC SCHOOL.**

9 **(4) “SCHOOL STAFF” MEANS ALL SCHOOL EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS,**
10 **AND CONTRACTORS WHO PROVIDE SERVICES WITHIN A SCHOOL FACILITY.**

11 **(B) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, THE DEPARTMENT**
12 **MAY NOT REQUIRE ANY STUDENT OR SCHOOL STAFF TO WEAR A FACE COVERING IN**
13 **A SCHOOL FACILITY IN THE STATE.**

14 **(C) A COUNTY BOARD MAY DETERMINE WHETHER TO REQUIRE STUDENTS**
15 **AND SCHOOL STAFF TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS IN SCHOOL FACILITIES IN THE**
16 **COUNTY.**

17 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July**
18 **1, 2022.**