Chapter 605

(House Bill 1401)

AN ACT concerning

State Department of Education – Oral Health Education – 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 at certain intervals; 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 7–411.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2008 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Education
Section 7–401(a)
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; and

(3) On or before December 1, 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 as certified under subsection (a) of this section.

(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.

(b) On or before December 1, 2012, and every 5 years thereafter, the Department shall report to the Governor and, subject to § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly, a summary of the information reported to the State Superintendent during the comprehensive health education COMAR certification process.

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.