

# SENATE BILL 477

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CF HB 350

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By: **Senator Colburn**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2014

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Talbot County Board of Education – Lease of Public School**  
3 **Facility**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Talbot County Board of Education to lease a  
5 public school facility to an organization that operates a certain educational and  
6 recreational program, subject to a certain determination and certain limitations;  
7 and generally relating to the authority of the Talbot County Board of Education  
8 to lease a public school facility to certain organizations for certain purposes.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article – Education  
11 Section 7–108  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

16 **Article – Education**

17 7–108.

18 (a) Each county board shall encourage the use of public school facilities for  
19 community purposes.

20 (b) (1) If written application is made to the county superintendent, the  
21 county board shall provide for the use of a public school facility for:

22 (i) The presentation and discussion of public questions;

23 (ii) Public speaking;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (iii) Lectures; or

2 (iv) Other civic, educational, social, or recreational purposes or  
3 church affiliated civic purposes.

4 (2) These meetings shall be open to the public.

5 (3) The county board may refuse the use of any school facility for these  
6 purposes if it appears that the use is likely to:

7 (i) Provoke or add to a public riot or breach of the peace; or

8 (ii) Create a clear and present danger to the peace and welfare  
9 of the county or State.

10 (c) Each county board may permit a partisan political organization that has  
11 polled 10 percent or more of the entire vote cast in this State in the last general  
12 election to use public school facilities for programs and meetings that relate to a  
13 political campaign for nomination or election of a candidate to public office.

14 (d) Each county board may permit the use of public school facilities for  
15 religious or other lawful purposes.

16 (e) Subject to § 7–109 of this subtitle, school facilities may be used only at  
17 times that will not interfere with regular school sessions or other bona fide school  
18 activities.

19 (f) In Montgomery County, nonschool use of school facilities for public and  
20 community purposes and the manner by which costs associated with such use are  
21 apportioned may be regulated by local law consistent with the use criteria set forth in  
22 § 7–110 of this subtitle and not inconsistent with any other provisions of this article.  
23 The local law authorized by this subsection may provide for an interagency  
24 coordinating board and for the appointment of its members by Montgomery County.  
25 Membership may include the Superintendent of Schools, the President of Montgomery  
26 College, the members of the Montgomery County Planning Board, and such other  
27 members as may be provided by the local law.

28 **(G) IN TALBOT COUNTY, THE COUNTY BOARD MAY ENTER INTO A LEASE**  
29 **WITH AN ORGANIZATION THAT OPERATES A COMMUNITY–BASED EDUCATIONAL**  
30 **AND RECREATIONAL PROGRAM TO USE A PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY IF:**

31 **(1) THE COUNTY BOARD DOES NOT ANTICIPATE A NEED FOR THE**  
32 **PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY DURING THE TERM OF THE LEASE;**

1                   **(2) THE COUNTY BOARD DETERMINES THAT THE PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
2 **SYSTEM WILL BENEFIT IF THE ORGANIZATION OPERATES A COMMUNITY-BASED**  
3 **EDUCATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL FACILITY AT THE PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITY;**  
4 **AND**

5                   **(3) THE LEASE TERM IS NOT LONGER THAN 99 YEARS.**

6                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
7                   October 1, 2014.