

# HOUSE BILL 1466

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By: **Delegates A. Washington, Kaiser, Morales, Platt, ~~and Walker~~ Walker, and Ebersole**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2016

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 16, 2016

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Restorative Justice Discipline Practices in Maryland**  
3 **Public Schools**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Restorative Justice Discipline  
5 Practices in Maryland Public Schools; providing for the composition, chair, and  
6 staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving  
7 certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses;  
8 requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding certain  
9 matters; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the  
10 Governor and the General Assembly on or before certain dates; providing for the  
11 termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study Restorative  
12 Justice Discipline Practices in Maryland Public Schools.

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
14 That:

15 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Restorative Justice Discipline Practices in  
16 Maryland Public Schools.

17 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

18 (1) ~~two members~~ one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the  
19 President of the Senate;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1           (2) ~~two members~~ one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the  
2 Speaker of the House;

3           (3) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the State Superintendent's  
4 designee;

5           (4) the President of the State Board of Education, or the President's  
6 designee;

7           (5) the Secretary of Juvenile Services, or the Secretary's designee;

8           (6) the President of the Maryland Association of Boards of Education, or  
9 the President's designee;

10          (7) the President of the Maryland State Education Association, or the  
11 President's designee;

12          (8) the President of the Maryland Association of Student Councils, or the  
13 President's designee;

14          (9) ~~two representatives~~ one representative of the Maryland Association of  
15 School Resource Officers, appointed by the President of the Maryland Association of School  
16 Resource Officers;

17          (10) the President of the Maryland Association of Elementary School  
18 Principals, or the President's designee;

19          ~~(11) the President of the Maryland Association of Secondary School~~  
20 ~~Principals, or the President's designee;~~

21          ~~(12)~~ (11) one teacher of a public school in Maryland, appointed by the  
22 Governor;

23          ~~(13)~~ (12) the President of the American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland,  
24 or the President's designee; ~~and~~

25          ~~(14) the Director of The Johns Hopkins Institute for Education Policy, or the~~  
26 ~~Director's designee~~

27          (13) the Maryland Public Defender, or the Public Defender's designee;

28          (14) the Executive Director of the Advocates for Children and Youth, or the  
29 Executive Director's designee; and

30          (15) one teacher of a public school in Maryland that utilizes restorative  
31 justice school discipline practices, appointed by the Governor.

1 (c) The State Superintendent of Schools, or State Superintendent's designee,  
2 shall be the chair of the Task Force.

3 (d) The State Department of Education shall provide staff for the Task Force.

4 (e) A member of the Task Force:

5 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

6 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
7 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

8 (f) The Task Force shall:

9 (1) study and analyze the current disciplinary practices in Maryland public  
10 schools;

11 (2) investigate potential implementation options regarding redesigning  
12 restorative justice discipline practices; ~~and~~

13 (3) examine national best practices for training of school police officers,  
14 school security officers, and school resource officers; and

15 (4) examine national best practices for training of teachers and principals  
16 in restorative justice discipline practices.

17 (g) (1) On or before October 1, 2016, the Maryland Police Academy, the  
18 Maryland Police Training Commission, and the Maryland Association of School Resource  
19 Officers shall brief the Task Force on current training practices of Maryland school police  
20 officers, school security officers, and school resource officers for each local education agency.

21 (2) On or before October 1, 2017, the State Department of Education shall  
22 brief the Task Force on:

23 (i) 2 years of ~~school-level student arrest~~ data on the number and  
24 distribution by the local school system of school-based arrests, referrals to law  
25 enforcement, including referrals to the Maryland Department of Juvenile Services, offenses  
26 with which students were charged, and incidents in which force has been used against a  
27 student, disaggregated by a student's age, grade level, disability status, free or reduced  
28 price meals eligibility, and English language learner status;

29 (ii) the ~~number of times each student behavior and response was~~  
30 ~~used by school~~ behaviors, designated by codes of the Maryland Student Records Systems  
31 Manual, for which students were disciplined and the consequences used for each response,  
32 referencing Section II of the Maryland Guidelines for a State Code of Discipline document  
33 adopted July 22, 2014, by the State Board of Education, ~~to determine student behavior and~~  
34 ~~response to be measured~~ including, as appropriate, the length of suspension or expulsion,

1 and whether a student is returned to the student's regular school program after the  
2 conclusion of the suspension or expulsion; and

3 (iii) ~~how each local education agency is executing the current~~  
4 ~~disciplinary practices~~ each local school system's Code of Conduct and discipline policies,  
5 how closely aligned those policies are to the Maryland Guidelines for a State Code of  
6 Discipline, and to what extent each local school system utilizes alternatives to exclusion  
7 and arrest, including restorative justice discipline practices.

8 (h) The Task Force shall make recommendations on:

9 (1) the establishment of a Collaborative Action Plan, which could create a  
10 statewide framework for redesigning public school discipline practices around restorative  
11 justice practices;

12 (2) legislative and policy initiatives that can be utilized to enact a  
13 Collaborative Action Plan;

14 (3) bringing Maryland into compliance with national best practices on  
15 school police officer, school security officer, and school resource officer training if Maryland  
16 is not currently utilizing national best practices; and

17 (4) any additional findings of the Task Force.

18 (i) On or before January 1, 2017, the Task Force shall report its findings and  
19 recommendations regarding school police officer, school security officer, and school resource  
20 officer training to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government  
21 Article, the General Assembly.

22 (j) On or before January 1, 2018, the Task Force shall report its final findings  
23 and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State  
24 Government Article, the General Assembly.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
26 1, 2016. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2018,  
27 with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and  
28 of no further force and effect.