

HOUSE BILL 1601

F1, J1, O1

8lr3622

By: **Delegate Wilkins**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2018

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Department of Education – Trauma–Informed Schools Initiative, Program,**
3 **and Fund**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Trauma–Informed Schools Initiative in the State
5 Department of Education; requiring the State Department of Education, in
6 consultation with the Maryland Department of Health and the Department of
7 Human Services, to develop certain guidelines on a certain trauma–informed
8 approach and offer certain training to each local school system; requiring the State
9 Department of Education to distribute certain guidelines to each local school system
10 and to develop a certain website; requiring the State Department of Education, in
11 consultation with the Maryland Department of Health and the Department of
12 Human Services, to establish the Trauma–Informed Schools Expansion Program;
13 stating the purpose of the Program; requiring the State Department of Education to
14 select certain schools to participate in the Program on or before a certain date;
15 requiring the State Department of Education to take certain actions in implementing
16 the Program; requiring the State Department of Education, in consultation with the
17 Maryland Department of Health and the Department of Human Services, to study
18 certain matters at the end of certain school years; requiring the State Department
19 of Education to report its findings to the Governor and the General Assembly on or
20 before a certain date for a certain number of years; establishing the
21 Trauma–Informed Schools Expansion Program Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund;
22 specifying the purpose of the Fund; requiring the State Department of Education to
23 administer the Fund; requiring the State Treasurer to hold the Fund and the
24 Comptroller to account for the Fund; specifying the contents of the Fund; specifying
25 the purpose for which the Fund may be used; requiring interest earnings of the Fund
26 to be credited to the Fund; exempting the Fund from a certain provision of law
27 requiring interest earnings on State money to accrue to the General Fund of the
28 State; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the Trauma–Informed
29 Schools Initiative, Trauma–Informed Schools Expansion Program, and
30 Trauma–Informed Schools Expansion Program Fund.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 BY adding to
2 Article – Education
3 Section 7–427.1
4 Annotated Code of Maryland
5 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
7 Article – State Finance and Procurement
8 Section 6–226(a)(2)(i)
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – State Finance and Procurement
13 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)101. and 102.
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

16 BY adding to
17 Article – State Finance and Procurement
18 Section 6–226(a)(2)(ii)103.
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

23 **Article – Education**

24 **7–427.1.**

25 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
26 **INDICATED.**

27 **(2) “FUND” MEANS THE TRAUMA–INFORMED SCHOOLS EXPANSION**
28 **PROGRAM FUND.**

29 **(3) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE TRAUMA–INFORMED SCHOOLS**
30 **EXPANSION PROGRAM.**

31 **(4) “TRAUMA–INFORMED APPROACH” MEANS A METHOD FOR**
32 **UNDERSTANDING AND RESPONDING TO AN INDIVIDUAL WITH SYMPTOMS OF**
33 **CHRONIC INTERPERSONAL TRAUMA OR TRAUMATIC STRESS.**

34 **(5) “TRAUMA–INFORMED SCHOOL” MEANS A SCHOOL THAT:**

1 **(I) ACKNOWLEDGES THE WIDESPREAD IMPACT OF TRAUMA**
2 **AND UNDERSTANDS THE POTENTIAL PATHS FOR RECOVERY;**

3 **(II) RECOGNIZES THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF TRAUMA IN**
4 **STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND STAFF;**

5 **(III) INTEGRATES INFORMATION ABOUT TRAUMA INTO**
6 **POLICIES, PROCEDURES; AND PRACTICES; AND**

7 **(IV) ACTIVELY RESISTS RE-TRAUMATIZING A STUDENT,**
8 **TEACHER, OR STAFF MEMBER WHO HAS EXPERIENCED TRAUMA.**

9 **(B) (1) THERE IS A TRAUMA-INFORMED SCHOOLS INITIATIVE IN THE**
10 **DEPARTMENT.**

11 **(2) THE DEPARTMENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MARYLAND**
12 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, SHALL:**

13 **(I) DEVELOP GUIDELINES ON A TRAUMA-INFORMED**
14 **APPROACH THAT WILL ASSIST SCHOOLS WITH:**

15 **1. THE IDENTIFICATION OF A STUDENT, TEACHER, OR**
16 **STAFF MEMBER WHO HAS EXPERIENCED TRAUMA;**

17 **2. THE APPROPRIATE MANNER FOR RESPONDING TO A**
18 **STUDENT, TEACHER, OR STAFF MEMBER WHO HAS EXPERIENCED TRAUMA; AND**

19 **3. BECOMING A TRAUMA-INFORMED SCHOOL; AND**

20 **(II) OFFER TRAINING TO EACH LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM ON:**

21 **1. THE TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH; AND**

22 **2. BECOMING A TRAUMA-INFORMED SCHOOL.**

23 **(3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

24 **(I) DISTRIBUTE THE GUIDELINES DEVELOPED UNDER**
25 **PARAGRAPH (2)(I) OF THIS SECTION TO EACH LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM; AND**

26 **(II) DEVELOP A WEBSITE ON THE TRAUMA-INFORMED**
27 **APPROACH THAT INCLUDES:**

1 1. **THE GUIDELINES DEVELOPED UNDER PARAGRAPH**
2 **(2)(I) OF THIS SECTION; AND**

3 2. **ANY OTHER INFORMATION THE DEPARTMENT, THE**
4 **MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, OR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**
5 **CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE.**

6 (c) (1) **THE DEPARTMENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MARYLAND**
7 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, SHALL**
8 **ESTABLISH A TRAUMA-INFORMED SCHOOLS EXPANSION PROGRAM.**

9 (2) **THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO:**

10 (i) **EXPAND THE USE OF THE TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH**
11 **USED IN SCHOOLS; AND**

12 (ii) **INTENSIVELY TRAIN SCHOOLS ON BECOMING**
13 **TRAUMA-INFORMED SCHOOLS.**

14 (3) **ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2018, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SELECT**
15 **ONE SCHOOL FROM EACH OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE**
16 **PROGRAM AND RECEIVE INTENSIVE TRAINING ON THE TRAUMA-INFORMED**
17 **APPROACH:**

18 (i) **A METROPOLITAN OR URBAN AREA OF THE STATE;**

19 (ii) **A SUBURBAN AREA OF THE STATE; AND**

20 (iii) **A RURAL AREA OF THE STATE.**

21 (4) **IN IMPLEMENTING THE PROGRAM, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

22 (i) **CONSULT WITH JURISDICTIONS THAT USE THE**
23 **TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH OR ANOTHER SIMILAR APPROACH;**

24 (ii) **PROVIDE TRAINING TO THE TEACHERS, EDUCATION**
25 **SUPPORT STAFF, AND ADMINISTRATORS OF THE SELECTED SCHOOLS ON:**

26 1. **THE TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH; AND**

27 2. **HOW TO BECOME A TRAUMA-INFORMED SCHOOL;**

28 (iii) **MONITOR EACH SELECTED SCHOOL'S PROGRESS IN**

1 BECOMING A TRAUMA-INFORMED SCHOOL; AND

2 (IV) PROVIDE THE SELECTED SCHOOLS WITH ASSISTANCE, AS
3 NECESSARY.

4 (D) (1) THE DEPARTMENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MARYLAND
5 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, SHALL
6 STUDY THE PROGRESS AND RESULTS OF THE PROGRAM AT THE END OF EACH
7 SCHOOL YEAR BEGINNING WITH THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR THROUGH THE
8 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR.

9 (2) THE STUDY REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS
10 SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE AN EXAMINATION OF ACADEMIC AND NONACADEMIC
11 BENEFITS THAT STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND STAFF HAVE EXPERIENCED:

12 (I) RESULTING FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM; AND

13 (II) IN A SCHOOL THAT HAS USED THE MATERIALS OR TAKEN
14 THE TRAINING PROVIDED UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(2) OF THIS SECTION.

15 (3) ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 31, 2019, AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER
16 FOR THE NEXT 4 YEARS, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT ITS FINDINGS TO THE
17 GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT
18 ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

19 (E) (1) THERE IS A TRAUMA-INFORMED SCHOOLS EXPANSION
20 PROGRAM FUND.

21 (2) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE
22 PROGRAM.

23 (3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.

24 (4) (I) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT
25 SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.

26 (II) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND
27 SEPARATELY, AND THE COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.

28 (5) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:

29 (I) MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE
30 FUND;

1 (II) INTEREST EARNINGS; AND

2 (III) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED
3 FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.

4 (6) THE FUND MAY BE USED ONLY FOR THE PROGRAM.

5 (7) (I) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE
6 FUND IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.

7 (II) ANY INTEREST EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE
8 CREDITED TO THE FUND.

9 (8) EXPENDITURES FROM THE FUND MAY BE MADE ONLY IN
10 ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE BUDGET.

11 (9) MONEY EXPENDED FROM THE FUND FOR THE PROGRAM IS
12 SUPPLEMENTAL TO AND IS NOT INTENDED TO TAKE THE PLACE OF FUNDING THAT
13 OTHERWISE WOULD BE APPROPRIATED FOR THE PROGRAM.

14 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

15 6–226.

16 (a) (2) (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and unless
17 inconsistent with a federal law, grant agreement, or other federal requirement or with the
18 terms of a gift or settlement agreement, net interest on all State money allocated by the
19 State Treasurer under this section to special funds or accounts, and otherwise entitled to
20 receive interest earnings, as accounted for by the Comptroller, shall accrue to the General
21 Fund of the State.

22 (ii) The provisions of subparagraph (i) of this paragraph do not apply
23 to the following funds:

24 101. the Advance Directive Program Fund; [and]

25 102. the Make Office Vacancies Extinct Matching Fund; AND

26 **103. THE TRAUMA-INFORMED SCHOOLS EXPANSION**
27 **PROGRAM FUND.**

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
29 1, 2018.