

Chapter 552

(House Bill 844)

AN ACT concerning

Public Schools – School Psychologists – Reports

FOR the purpose of requiring each local school system in the State to submit a report on certain information regarding school psychologists to the State Board of Education, the Governor, and certain legislative committees on or before a certain date; requiring each local school system in the State to submit an interim report on school psychologists to the State Board of Education, the Governor, and certain legislative committees on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to school psychologists in public schools.

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

(a) Each local school system in the State shall submit a report on school psychologists in the local school system.

(b) The school psychologist report under subsection (a) of this section shall include:

(1) current ratio of school psychologists to students in each public school in the local school system;

(2) for schools with ~~less~~ fewer than ~~750~~ 700 students, strategies to increase the number of school psychologists in each school to ~~no~~ not less than one school psychologist in each school on or before October 1, 2020, including any additional State or local funding needed by the local school system;

(3) for schools with ~~750~~ 700 students or more, strategies to increase the ratio of school psychologists in each school system to ~~no~~ not less than one school psychologist to every ~~750~~ 700 students on or before October 1, 2020, including any additional State or local funding needed by the local school system;

(4) policies to decrease the wait times for students seeking to meet with a school psychologist; and

(5) strategies to increase the recruitment and retention of qualified school psychologists in the local school system.

(c) (1) On or before July 1, 2020, each local school system shall submit an interim report on school psychologists in the local school system to the State Board of Education, the Governor, and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government

Article, the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Committee on Ways and Means.

(2) On or before December 1, 2020, each local school system shall submit the final report on school psychologists in the local school system required under subsection (a) of this section to the State Board of Education, the Governor, and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Committee on Ways and Means.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2019. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2021, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2019.