

# SENATE BILL 423

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SB 103/18 – EHE

9lr0938

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By: **Senators Benson, Patterson, and Young**  
Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2019  
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Impact of Student Cell Phone Use in the Classroom**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study the Impact of Student Cell Phone  
4 Use in the Classroom; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task  
5 Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation,  
6 but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to  
7 study certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its findings to the Governor  
8 and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination  
9 of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study the Impact of Student  
10 Cell Phone Use in the Classroom.

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

13 (a) There is a Task Force to Study the Impact of Student Cell Phone Use in the  
14 Classroom.

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

16 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
17 the Senate;

18 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the  
19 House;

20 (3) the State Superintendent of Schools or the State Superintendent's  
21 designee;

22 (4) two parents of students enrolled in schools in the State, one of whom  
23 shall be the parent of a public school student and one of whom shall be the parent of a  
24 private school student, who shall be appointed jointly by the Speaker of the House and the

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 President of the Senate; and

2 (5) one representative from each of the following organizations, appointed  
3 by the organization:

4 (i) the Maryland State Education Association;

5 (ii) the Baltimore Teachers Union;

6 (iii) the Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland;

7 (iv) the Maryland Parent Teacher Association;

8 (v) the Maryland Association of Boards of Education; and

9 (vi) the Association of Independent Maryland and DC Schools.

10 (c) The Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate shall jointly  
11 designate the chair of the Task Force.

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

13 (e) A member of the Task Force:

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

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

17 (f) The Task Force shall study:

18 (1) the impact of student cell phone use in the classroom on student  
19 learning;

20 (2) the impact of student cell phone use in the classroom on teacher  
21 instruction;

22 (3) whether there are any benefits associated with student cell phone use  
23 in the classroom; and

24 (4) any other matters relating to student cell phone use in the classroom  
25 that the Task Force deems relevant.

26 (g) On or before December 1, 2019, the Task Force shall report its findings to the  
27 Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General  
28 Assembly.

1           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
2 1, 2019. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June  
3 30, 2020, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be  
4 abrogated and of no further force and effect.