A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Primary and Secondary Education – Title IX – Policies and Procedures
(Hear Our Voices Act of 2020)

FOR the purpose of requiring the State Board of Education, on or before a certain date, to
develop policies and procedures for reporting, administering, investigating, and
resolving complaints related to incidents of sexual misconduct and Title IX;
providing for the requirements of the policies and procedures; requiring the State
Board to adopt regulations to implement this Act; and generally relating to sexual
misconduct complaints and Title IX compliance.

BY adding to

Article – Education
Section 7–446
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

7–446.

(A) ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 2021, THE STATE BOARD, AFTER
CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS, SHALL DEVELOP POLICIES AND
PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING, ADMINISTERING, INVESTIGATING, AND RESOLVING
COMPLAINTS RELATED TO INCIDENTS OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AND TITLE IX OF
THE EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1972.

(B) THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (A)
OF THIS SECTION SHALL REQUIRE:

(1) THE DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP A DATABASE FOR ADMINISTRATORS TO UPLOAD SEXUAL MISCONDUCT COMPLAINTS; AND

(2) A PUBLIC SCHOOL TO:

(i) NOTIFY THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF A STUDENT WHO FILES A COMPLAINT RELATED TO SEXUAL MISCONDUCT;

(ii) COLLECT DATA ON SEXUAL MISCONDUCT COMPLAINTS AND REPORT THE DATA TO THE DEPARTMENT EACH YEAR; AND

(iii) INFORM STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF OF:

1. WHO SERVES AS THE TITLE IX COORDINATOR FOR THE SCHOOL; AND

2. HOW TO FILE A SEXUAL MISCONDUCT COMPLAINT.

(c) THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2020.