

**HB0083/794730/1**

BY: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 83  
(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 3, strike “**Review and Report**” and substitute “**Operation Requirements**”; strike beginning with “requiring” in line 11 down through “actions;” in line 16 and substitute “prohibiting public and nonpublic school employees from operating an electric retractable room partition in a school except under certain circumstances; requiring any annual safety review, evaluation, or exercise for school employees in a certain school building to include certain information and demonstrations; requiring the State Department of Education to develop and disseminate model safety guidelines on the safe operation of electric retractable room partitions; requiring the Department to publish model safety guidelines on its public website; defining certain terms;”; and after line 17, insert:

“BY adding to  
Article – Education  
Section 7–447  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 3, strike in their entirety lines 1 through 17, inclusive, and substitute:

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

Article – Education

7–447.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE

(Over)

MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) “ELECTRIC RETRACTABLE ROOM PARTITION” MEANS A ROOM PARTITION, DIVIDER, CURTAIN, OR ANY OTHER SIMILAR DEVICE THAT IS OPENED AND RETRACTED BY OPERATION OF AN ELECTRIC MOTOR.

(3) “SCHOOL EMPLOYEE” MEANS AN EMPLOYEE OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL OR NONPUBLIC SCHOOL.

(B) A SCHOOL EMPLOYEE MAY NOT OPERATE AN ELECTRIC RETRACTABLE ROOM PARTITION IN A SCHOOL BUILDING UNLESS:

(1) THE PARTITION INCLUDES A SAFETY SENSOR THAT AUTOMATICALLY STOPS THE MOVEMENT OF THE PARTITION WHEN A BODY PASSES BETWEEN THE LEADING EDGE AND A WALL, AN OPPOSING PARTITION, OR THE STACKING AREA OF THE PARTITION;

(2) NO STUDENTS ARE PRESENT IN THE SCHOOL BUILDING; OR

(3) THE ROOM OR AREA WHERE THE PARTITION IS LOCATED IS LOCKED OR OTHERWISE FREE OF OR INACCESSIBLE TO STUDENTS.

(C) ANY ANNUAL SAFETY REVIEW, EVALUATION, OR EXERCISE FOR SCHOOL EMPLOYEES IN A SCHOOL BUILDING WITH AN ELECTRIC RETRACTABLE ROOM PARTITION SHALL INCLUDE INFORMATION AND DEMONSTRATIONS, AS APPROPRIATE, REGARDING THE SAFE OPERATION OF THE ELECTRIC RETRACTABLE ROOM PARTITION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (D) OF THIS SECTION.

(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

(1) DEVELOP AND DISSEMINATE TO EACH COUNTY BOARD AND EACH NONPUBLIC SCHOOL MODEL SAFETY GUIDELINES REGARDING THE OPERATION OF ELECTRIC RETRACTABLE ROOM PARTITIONS; AND

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**(2) PUBLISH THE MODEL SAFETY GUIDELINES ON ITS PUBLIC WEBSITE.**