

HOUSE BILL 277

F1
HB 782/21 – W&M

2lr1600
CF SB 234

By: **Delegates Patterson, D. Barnes, Brooks, Buckel, Henson, Jalisi, Krimm,
Landis, Lisanti, McComas, Proctor, Rogers, Ruth, and Valentino-Smith**

Introduced and read first time: January 17, 2022

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Schools – Purple Star Schools Program – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Purple Star Schools Program to recognize public
4 schools that provide strong services and support for military-connected students and
5 their families; and generally relating to the Purple Star Schools Program.

6 BY adding to

7 Article – Education

8 Section 7–129

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Education**

14 **7–129.**

15 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
16 **INDICATED.**

17 **(2) “MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENT” MEANS A STUDENT WHO IS A**
18 **DEPENDENT OF:**

19 **(I) A CURRENT OR FORMER MEMBER OF:**

20 **1. THE UNITED STATES MILITARY SERVING IN THE**
21 **ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE, MARINE CORPS, OR COAST GUARD ON ACTIVE DUTY;**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **2. THE MARYLAND NATIONAL GUARD; OR**

2 **3. A RESERVE FORCE OF THE UNITED STATES**
3 **MILITARY; OR**

4 **(II) A MEMBER OF A MILITARY OR RESERVE FORCE DESCRIBED**
5 **IN ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH WHO WAS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY.**

6 **(3) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE PURPLE STAR SCHOOLS PROGRAM.**

7 **(B) (1) THERE IS A PURPLE STAR SCHOOLS PROGRAM.**

8 **(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO RECOGNIZE PUBLIC**
9 **SCHOOLS THAT PROVIDE STRONG SERVICES AND SUPPORT FOR**
10 **MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES.**

11 **(C) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.**

12 **(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DESIGNATE A PUBLIC SCHOOL AS A**
13 **PURPLE STAR SCHOOL IF THE SCHOOL APPLIES AND QUALIFIES FOR THE**
14 **DESIGNATION UNDER SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION.**

15 **(D) TO QUALIFY AS A PURPLE STAR SCHOOL, A PUBLIC SCHOOL SHALL:**

16 **(1) DESIGNATE A STAFF MEMBER AS A MILITARY LIAISON, WHOSE**
17 **DUTIES SHALL INCLUDE:**

18 **(I) IDENTIFYING MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS**
19 **ENROLLED AT THE SCHOOL;**

20 **(II) SERVING AS THE POINT OF CONTACT BETWEEN THE**
21 **SCHOOL AND MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES;**

22 **(III) DETERMINING APPROPRIATE SCHOOL SERVICES**
23 **AVAILABLE TO MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS; AND**

24 **(IV) ASSISTING IN COORDINATING SCHOOL PROGRAMS**
25 **RELEVANT TO MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS;**

26 **(2) ESTABLISH ON THE SCHOOL'S WEBSITE AN EASILY ACCESSIBLE**
27 **WEBPAGE THAT INCLUDES RESOURCES FOR MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS AND**
28 **THEIR FAMILIES, INCLUDING INFORMATION REGARDING:**

1 **(I) RELOCATION TO, ENROLLMENT AT, REGISTRATION AT, AND**
2 **TRANSFERRING RECORDS TO THE SCHOOL;**

3 **(II) ACADEMIC PLANNING, COURSE SEQUENCES, AND**
4 **ADVANCED CLASSES AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL; AND**

5 **(III) COUNSELING AND OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES AVAILABLE**
6 **FOR MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS TRANSITIONING INTO THE SCHOOL;**

7 **(3) MAINTAIN A TRANSITION PROGRAM LED BY STUDENTS, IF**
8 **APPROPRIATE, THAT ASSISTS MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS ENROLLED AT THE**
9 **SCHOOL;**

10 **(4) OFFER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR STAFF MEMBERS ON**
11 **ISSUES RELATED TO MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS; AND**

12 **(5) OFFER AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING INITIATIVES:**

13 **(I) A RESOLUTION SHOWING SUPPORT FOR**
14 **MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES;**

15 **(II) RECOGNITION OF THE MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD OR**
16 **MILITARY FAMILY MONTH WITH RELEVANT EVENTS HOSTED BY THE SCHOOL; OR**

17 **(III) A PARTNERSHIP WITH A LOCAL MILITARY INSTALLATION**
18 **THAT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY MEMBERS TO**
19 **VOLUNTEER AT THE SCHOOL, SPEAK AT A SCHOOL ASSEMBLY, OR HOST A FIELD**
20 **TRIP.**

21 **(E) A PUBLIC SCHOOL MAY PARTNER WITH THE COUNTY BOARD TO FULFILL**
22 **THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY AS A PURPLE STAR SCHOOL UNDER**
23 **SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION:**

24 **(1) THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WEBPAGE UNDER SUBSECTION (D)(2)**
25 **OF THIS SECTION;**

26 **(2) THE PROVISION OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT UNDER**
27 **SUBSECTION (D)(4) OF THIS SECTION; AND**

28 **(3) THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INITIATIVE REQUIRED UNDER**
29 **SUBSECTION (D)(5) OF THIS SECTION.**

1 **(F) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS**
2 **SECTION.**

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
4 1, 2022.