

HOUSE BILL 515

F1, F2

2lr1882

By: **Delegates Feldmark, Boyce, Charkoudian, Davis, Ebersole, Foley, Guyton, Hill, Kaiser, Lehman, Lierman, Lopez, Love, Ruth, Solomon, Terrasa, and P. Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2022

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Student Athletes – Uniform Modifications for Modesty**
3 **(Inclusive Athletic Attire Act)**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring county boards of education, the Maryland Public Secondary
5 Schools Athletic Association, governing bodies of public institutions of higher
6 education, and boards of community college trustees to allow student athletes to
7 modify an athletic or team uniform to make the attire more modest to conform to the
8 requirements or preferences of the student athlete’s religion or culture; and generally
9 relating to modifying athletic or team uniforms of student athletes.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Education

12 Section 7–129, 15–134, and 16–110

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Education**

18 **7–129.**

19 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “STUDENT ATHLETE” MEANS A STUDENT ENROLLED**
20 **IN A HIGH SCHOOL WHO PARTICIPATES IN A HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC PROGRAM**
21 **THAT IS A MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS ATHLETIC**
22 **ASSOCIATION.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) (1) A COUNTY BOARD AND THE MARYLAND PUBLIC SECONDARY**
2 **SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION SHALL ALLOW A STUDENT ATHLETE TO MODIFY**
3 **THE ATHLETIC OR TEAM UNIFORM OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE IN A MANNER THAT**
4 **MAKES THE STUDENT ATHLETE’S ATTIRE MORE MODEST TO CONFORM TO THE**
5 **REQUIREMENTS OR PREFERENCES OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE’S RELIGION OR**
6 **CULTURE.**

7 **(2) A STUDENT ATHLETE MAY NOT BE REQUIRED TO RECEIVE**
8 **APPROVAL FROM A COACH, A TEACHER, A SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR, OR THE**
9 **COUNTY BOARD BEFORE MAKING THE UNIFORM MODIFICATION.**

10 **(C) (1) A MODIFICATION TO AN ATHLETIC OR TEAM UNIFORM MAY**
11 **INCLUDE THE WEARING OF:**

12 **(I) A HEAD COVERING WORN FOR RELIGIOUS REASONS,**
13 **INCLUDING A MUSLIM HIJAB, JEWISH KIPPAH, OR SIKH DASTAR;**

14 **(II) AN UNDERSHIRT; OR**

15 **(III) LEGGINGS.**

16 **(2) A MODIFICATION TO AN ATHLETIC OR TEAM UNIFORM MAY NOT:**

17 **(I) INTERFERE WITH THE MOVEMENT OF THE STUDENT**
18 **ATHLETE; OR**

19 **(II) POSE A SAFETY HAZARD TO THE STUDENT ATHLETE, OTHER**
20 **STUDENT ATHLETES, OR OTHERS.**

21 **(3) A STUDENT ATHLETE MAY MODIFY THE UNIFORM HEADGEAR IF**
22 **THE MODIFIED HEADGEAR:**

23 **(I) IS BLACK, WHITE, THE PREDOMINANT COLOR OF THE**
24 **UNIFORM, OR THE SAME COLOR AS THAT WORN BY ALL PLAYERS ON THE TEAM;**

25 **(II) DOES NOT COVER ANY PART OF THE FACE, UNLESS**
26 **REQUIRED FOR THE SAFETY OF THE WEARER;**

27 **(III) IS NOT DANGEROUS TO THE STUDENT ATHLETE, OTHER**
28 **STUDENT ATHLETES, OR OTHERS;**

29 **(IV) DOES NOT HAVE OPENING OR CLOSING ELEMENTS AROUND**
30 **THE FACE OR NECK; AND**

1 (V) DOES NOT HAVE PARTS PROTRUDING FROM ITS SURFACE.

2 (D) (1) A STUDENT ATHLETE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL COSTS
3 ASSOCIATED WITH THE MODIFICATION OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE'S ATHLETIC OR
4 TEAM UNIFORM UNDER THIS SECTION.

5 (2) THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT A
6 PUBLIC SCHOOL FROM PROVIDING THE UNIFORM MODIFICATION TO THE STUDENT.

7 15-134.

8 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "STUDENT ATHLETE" MEANS A STUDENT ENROLLED
9 AT A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WHO PARTICIPATES IN AN
10 INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC PROGRAM AT THE INSTITUTION.

11 (B) (1) THE GOVERNING BODY OF A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
12 EDUCATION SHALL ALLOW A STUDENT ATHLETE TO MODIFY THE ATHLETIC OR TEAM
13 UNIFORM OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE IN A MANNER THAT MAKES THE STUDENT
14 ATHLETE'S ATTIRE MORE MODEST TO CONFORM TO THE REQUIREMENTS OR
15 PREFERENCES OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE'S RELIGION OR CULTURE.

16 (2) A STUDENT ATHLETE MAY NOT BE REQUIRED TO RECEIVE
17 APPROVAL FROM A COACH, AN ADMINISTRATOR, OR THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
18 PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION BEFORE MAKING THE UNIFORM
19 MODIFICATION.

20 (C) (1) A MODIFICATION TO AN ATHLETIC OR TEAM UNIFORM MAY
21 INCLUDE THE WEARING OF:

22 (I) A HEAD COVERING WORN FOR RELIGIOUS REASONS,
23 INCLUDING A MUSLIM HIJAB, JEWISH KIPPAH, OR SIKH DASTAR;

24 (II) AN UNDERSHIRT; OR

25 (III) LEGGINGS.

26 (2) A MODIFICATION TO AN ATHLETIC OR TEAM UNIFORM MAY NOT:

27 (I) INTERFERE WITH THE MOVEMENT OF THE STUDENT
28 ATHLETE; OR

1 (II) POSE A SAFETY HAZARD TO THE STUDENT ATHLETE, OTHER
2 STUDENT ATHLETES, OR OTHERS.

3 (3) A STUDENT ATHLETE MAY MODIFY THE UNIFORM HEADGEAR IF
4 THE MODIFIED HEADGEAR:

5 (I) IS BLACK, WHITE, THE PREDOMINANT COLOR OF THE
6 UNIFORM, OR THE SAME COLOR AS THAT WORN BY ALL PLAYERS ON THE TEAM;

7 (II) DOES NOT COVER ANY PART OF THE FACE, UNLESS
8 REQUIRED FOR THE SAFETY OF THE WEARER;

9 (III) IS NOT DANGEROUS TO THE STUDENT ATHLETE, OTHER
10 STUDENT ATHLETES, OR OTHERS;

11 (IV) DOES NOT HAVE OPENING OR CLOSING ELEMENTS AROUND
12 THE FACE OR NECK; AND

13 (V) DOES NOT HAVE PARTS PROTRUDING FROM ITS SURFACE.

14 (D) (1) A STUDENT ATHLETE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL COSTS
15 ASSOCIATED WITH THE MODIFICATION OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE'S ATHLETIC OR
16 TEAM UNIFORM UNDER THIS SECTION.

17 (2) THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT A
18 PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FROM PROVIDING THE UNIFORM
19 MODIFICATION TO THE STUDENT.

20 16-110.

21 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "STUDENT ATHLETE" MEANS A STUDENT ENROLLED
22 AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE WHO PARTICIPATES IN AN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC
23 PROGRAM AT THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

24 (B) (1) THE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES AT A
25 COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL ALLOW A STUDENT ATHLETE TO MODIFY THE
26 ATHLETIC OR TEAM UNIFORM OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE IN A MANNER THAT MAKES
27 THE STUDENT ATHLETE'S ATTIRE MORE MODEST TO CONFORM TO THE
28 REQUIREMENTS OR PREFERENCES OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE'S RELIGION OR
29 CULTURE.

1 **(2) A STUDENT ATHLETE MAY NOT BE REQUIRED TO RECEIVE**
2 **APPROVAL FROM A COACH, AN ADMINISTRATOR, OR THE BOARD OF COMMUNITY**
3 **COLLEGE TRUSTEES BEFORE MAKING THE UNIFORM MODIFICATION.**

4 **(C) (1) A MODIFICATION TO AN ATHLETIC OR TEAM UNIFORM MAY**
5 **INCLUDE THE WEARING OF:**

6 **(I) A HEAD COVERING WORN FOR RELIGIOUS REASONS,**
7 **INCLUDING A MUSLIM HIJAB, JEWISH KIPPAH, OR SIKH DASTAR;**

8 **(II) AN UNDERSHIRT; OR**

9 **(III) LEGGINGS.**

10 **(2) A MODIFICATION TO AN ATHLETIC OR TEAM UNIFORM MAY NOT:**

11 **(I) INTERFERE WITH THE MOVEMENT OF THE STUDENT**
12 **ATHLETE; OR**

13 **(II) POSE A SAFETY HAZARD TO THE STUDENT ATHLETE, OTHER**
14 **STUDENT ATHLETES, OR OTHERS.**

15 **(3) A STUDENT ATHLETE MAY MODIFY THE UNIFORM HEADGEAR IF**
16 **THE MODIFIED HEADGEAR:**

17 **(I) IS BLACK, WHITE, THE PREDOMINANT COLOR OF THE**
18 **UNIFORM, OR THE SAME COLOR AS THAT WORN BY ALL PLAYERS ON THE TEAM;**

19 **(II) DOES NOT COVER ANY PART OF THE FACE, UNLESS**
20 **REQUIRED FOR THE SAFETY OF THE WEARER;**

21 **(III) IS NOT DANGEROUS TO THE STUDENT ATHLETE, OTHER**
22 **STUDENT ATHLETES, OR OTHERS;**

23 **(IV) DOES NOT HAVE OPENING OR CLOSING ELEMENTS AROUND**
24 **THE FACE OR NECK; AND**

25 **(V) DOES NOT HAVE PARTS PROTRUDING FROM ITS SURFACE.**

26 **(D) (1) A STUDENT ATHLETE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL COSTS**
27 **ASSOCIATED WITH THE MODIFICATION OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE'S ATHLETIC OR**
28 **TEAM UNIFORM UNDER THIS SECTION.**

1 **(2) THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT A**
2 **COMMUNITY COLLEGE FROM PROVIDING THE UNIFORM MODIFICATION TO THE**
3 **STUDENT.**

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
5 1, 2022.