

SENATE BILL 56

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(PRE-FILED)

6lr0307

CF HB 293

By: Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee (By Request – Departmental – Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center)

Requested: October 1, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center – External Data Sharing With**
3 **Third-Party Data Centers for Multistate Reporting – Authorization**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Governing Board of the Maryland Longitudinal Data
5 System Center to provide certain student and workforce data to a third-party data
6 center under certain circumstances; requiring each third-party data center to agree
7 to comply with certain requirements relating to the data the center receives;
8 requiring the Center to enter into a written data sharing agreement with certain
9 third-party data centers; repealing the Governing Board's power to authorize the
10 sharing of data with the U.S. Census Bureau under certain circumstances; and
11 generally relating to the authority of the Maryland Longitudinal Data System
12 Center to share data externally.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
14 Article – Education
15 Section 24-703(a) and 24-704(a)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
19 Article – Education
20 Section 24-703(f) and 24-704(g)
21 Annotated Code of Maryland
22 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

23 BY repealing
24 Article – Education
25 Section 24-703.2(e)
26 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

2 BY adding to

3 Article – Education

4 Section 24–703.4

5 Annotated Code of Maryland

6 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

7 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

8 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

9 **Article – Education**

10 24–703.

11 (a) There is a Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center.

12 (f) The Center shall perform the following functions and duties:

13 (1) Serve as a central repository of student data and workforce data in the

14 Maryland Longitudinal Data System, including data sets provided by:

15 (i) The State Department of Education;

16 (ii) Local education agencies;

17 (iii) The Maryland Higher Education Commission;

18 (iv) Institutions of higher education;

19 (v) The Maryland Department of Labor;

20 (vi) The Department of Juvenile Services; and

21 (vii) The Social Services Administration within the Department of

22 Human Services;

23 (2) Oversee and maintain the warehouse of the Maryland Longitudinal

24 Data System data sets;

25 (3) Ensure routine and ongoing compliance with the federal Family

26 Educational Rights and Privacy Act and other relevant privacy laws and policies, including:

27 (i) The required use of de-identified data in data research and

28 reporting;

29 (ii) The required disposition of information that is no longer needed;

- (iii) Providing data security, including the capacity for audit trails;
- (iv) Providing for performance of regular audits for compliance with security standards; and
- (v) Implementing guidelines and policies that prevent the reporting of identifying data;

6 (4) Conduct research using timely and accurate student data and
7 workforce data to improve the State's education system and guide decision making by State
8 and local governments, educational agencies, institutions, teachers, and other education
9 professionals;

(5) Conduct research relating to:

- (i) The impact of State and federal education programs;
- (ii) The performance of educator preparation programs;
- (iii) Best practices regarding classroom instruction, curriculum, and segment alignment; and
- (iv) The impact child welfare programs have on the education of students;

17 (6) At the direction of the Accountability and Implementation Board
18 established in Title 5, Subtitle 4 of this article provide:

- (i) The Maryland Department of Health;
- (ii) The Department of Juvenile Services; and
- (iii) The Department of Human Services;

4 (9) SHARE DATA WITH THIRD-PARTY DATA CENTERS ONLY IN
5 ACCORDANCE WITH § 24-703.4 OF THIS SUBTITLE;

6 [(9)] (10) Fulfill information and data requests to facilitate State and
7 federal education reporting with existing State agencies as appropriate; and

8 [10] (11) Fulfill approved public information requests.

9 24-703.2.

10 [(e) The Governing Board may authorize the Center to send student information
11 to the United States Census Bureau.]

12 24-703.4.

13 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
14 INDICATED.

22 (B) SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION, THE GOVERNING
23 BOARD MAY AUTHORIZE THE CENTER TO PROVIDE INDIVIDUAL-LEVEL STUDENT
24 DATA AND INDIVIDUAL-LEVEL WORKFORCE DATA TO A THIRD-PARTY DATA CENTER
25 ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF FACILITATING MULTISTATE RESEARCH AND
26 REPORTING ON STUDENT OUTCOMES.

27 (C) (1) BEFORE AUTHORIZING THE CENTER TO PROVIDE DATA TO A
28 THIRD-PARTY DATA CENTER, THE GOVERNING BOARD SHALL ENSURE THAT THE
29 THIRD-PARTY DATA CENTER:

(i) HAS DATA HANDLING AND SECURITY STANDARDS THAT ARE AT LEAST AS RIGOROUS AS THOSE EMPLOYED BY THE CENTER;

(II) IS A FEDRAMP-AUTHORIZED AND -CERTIFIED PLATFORM;

(III) USES PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION ONLY TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY FOR MATCHING STUDENT DATA AND WORKFORCE FROM OTHER STATES;

(IV) EMPLOYS PRIVACY-ENHANCING TECHNIQUES, INCLUDING IN PLACE OF PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE DATA WHENEVER

(V) USES ONLY DE-IDENTIFIED DATA FOR ANALYTIC

(VI) RELEASES ONLY AGGREGATE DATA IN REPORTS AND OTHER

(VII) DOES NOT REPORT DATA IN ANY FORM THAT MAY BE USED INDIVIDUALS BASED ON THE SIZE OR UNIQUENESS OF THE ORDER CONSIDERATION.

(2) BEFORE PROVIDING ANY DATA TO A THIRD-PARTY DATA CENTER, THE HOLDER SHALL ENTER INTO A WRITTEN DATA SHARING AGREEMENT WITH A THIRD-PARTY DATA CENTER, IN WHICH THE THIRD-PARTY DATA CENTER AGREES TO COMPLY WITH:

(I) THE CONDITIONS LISTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS

(II) STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS RELATING TO DATA PRIVACY;

**(III) ANY OTHER CRITERIA THE GOVERNING BOARD
DEK APPROPRIATE.**

(3) EACH YEAR, THE GOVERNING BOARD SHALL REVIEW EACH DATA AGREEMENT TO ENSURE THAT THE USE OF STUDENT DATA AND THE DATA BY THE THIRD-PARTY DATA CENTER REMAINS COMPLIANT WITH THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT.

ORE PROVIDING ANY DATA TO A THIRD-PARTY DATA CENTER, THE
RD SHALL AFFIRMATIVELY APPROVE:

6 24-704.

7 (a) There is a Governing Board of the Center.

8 (g) The Governing Board shall:

12 (i) The ability of the entity to support the operation of a large data
13 system;

14 (ii) Strength of funding support; and

15 (iii) Expertise in data security;

16 (2) Develop an implementation plan to phase in the establishment and
17 operation of the Maryland Longitudinal Data System and the Center;

18 (3) Provide general oversight and direction to the Center;

19 (4) Approve the annual budget for the Center;

20 (5) Establish the policy and research agenda of the Center;

21 (6) Before the incorporation of any individual data in the

23 (i) Create an inventory of the individual student data:

¹ Proposed to be maintained in the system as a separate entity.

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26 mandates;

4 (iii) Develop a detailed data security and safeguarding plan that
5 includes:

8 2. Privacy compliance standards;

10 4. Breach notification and procedures; and

11 5. Data retention and disposition policies;

16 **[(8)] (9)** Ensure that any contracts that govern databases that are
17 outsourced to private vendors include express provisions that safeguard privacy and
18 security and include penalties for noncompliance;

22 **[(10)] (11)** Review research requirements and set policies for the approval
23 of data requests from State and local agencies, the Maryland General Assembly, and the
24 public.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
26 1, 2026.