

# HOUSE BILL 50

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HB 890/23 – W&M

(PRE-FILED)

4lr0497

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By: **Delegate Acevero**

Requested: August 14, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in Education**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in  
4 Education to make recommendations to the State Board of Education and the State  
5 Department of Education to further the discovery, interpretation, and learning of  
6 the history, culture, and civics of the United States and Maryland; and generally  
7 relating to the Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in Education.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Education

10 Section 7–135

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Education**

16 **7–135.**

17 **(A) (1) THERE IS A COMMISSION ON HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVICS IN**  
18 **EDUCATION.**

19 **(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION IS TO MAKE**  
20 **RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE BOARD AND THE DEPARTMENT TO FURTHER**  
21 **THE DISCOVERY, INTERPRETATION, AND LEARNING OF THE HISTORY, CULTURE,**  
22 **AND CIVICS OF THE UNITED STATES AND MARYLAND.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (B) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

2 (1) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:

3 (I) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING MARYLAND'S INDIGENOUS  
4 AMERICAN TRIBES, WHICH INCLUDE THE LENAPE, NANTICOKE, PISCATAWAY,  
5 CONOY, POWHATAN, ACCOHANNOCK, SHAWNEE, SUSQUEHANNOCK, TUTELO, AND  
6 SAPONI TRIBES;

7 (II) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND LGBTQI+  
8 COMMUNITY, ONE OF WHOM IDENTIFIES AS TRANSGENDER;

9 (III) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND  
10 DIFFERENTLY ABLED COMMUNITY; AND

11 (IV) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A TEACHER OR HOLDS A TEACHING  
12 LICENSE IN THE STATE;

13 (2) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR FROM  
14 A LIST OF NOMINEES:

15 (I) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND LATINX  
16 COMMUNITY, NOMINATED BY THE MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS;

17 (II) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND AFRICAN  
18 AMERICAN COMMUNITY, NOMINATED BY THE LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS OF  
19 MARYLAND; AND

20 (III) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND ASIAN  
21 AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITY, DESIGNATED BY THE MARYLAND  
22 LEGISLATIVE ASIAN-AMERICAN AND PACIFIC-ISLANDER CAUCUS;

23 (3) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING HIGHER EDUCATION:

24 (I) ONE OF WHOM IS DESIGNATED BY THE CHANCELLOR OF  
25 THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND; AND

26 (II) ONE OF WHOM IS DESIGNATED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
27 MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES; AND

28 (4) THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, OR THE STATE  
29 SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE.

1 (C) (1) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE  
2 COMMISSION SHALL REFLECT THE GENDER, RACIAL, ETHNIC, AND GEOGRAPHIC  
3 DIVERSITY OF THE STATE.

4 (2) A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION SHALL HAVE  
5 CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE OR EXPERIENCE IN DEVELOPING EDUCATION CONTENT  
6 STANDARDS.

7 (D) (1) THE TERM OF A MEMBER IS 4 YEARS.

8 (2) THE TERMS OF MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED BY THE  
9 TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ON JULY 1, 2024.

10 (E) THE COMMISSION MEMBERS SHALL ELECT A CHAIR FROM AMONG THE  
11 MEMBERS.

12 (F) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE COMMISSION.

13 (G) A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION:

14 (1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE  
15 COMMISSION; BUT

16 (2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE  
17 STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

18 (H) THE COMMISSION SHALL:

19 (1) EXAMINE THE HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVICS OF THE UNITED  
20 STATES AND MARYLAND, INCLUDING:

21 (I) THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICAN INDIANS, LATINOS,  
22 AFRICAN AMERICANS, AND ASIAN AMERICANS;

23 (II) THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL,  
24 TRANSGENDER, AND QUEER INDIVIDUALS WITHIN THE MINORITY GROUPS;

25 (III) THE INTERSECTIONALITY OF SIGNIFICANT SOCIAL AND  
26 CULTURAL FEATURES WITHIN THE MINORITY COMMUNITIES;

27 (IV) THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND PERSECUTION OF RELIGIOUS  
28 MINORITIES;

1 (V) THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE MARYLAND DIFFERENTLY  
2 ABLED COMMUNITY; AND

3 (VI) THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WOMEN;

4 (2) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE BOARD REGARDING  
5 THE ADOPTION OF STANDARDS AND PROGRAMS THAT ACCURATELY REFLECT THE  
6 DISCOVERY, INTERPRETATION, AND LEARNING OF THE HISTORY, CULTURE, AND  
7 CIVICS OF THE UNITED STATES AND MARYLAND;

8 (3) MAKE ALL ACTIVITIES AND MATERIALS OF THE COMMISSION  
9 AVAILABLE ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE, INCLUDING:

10 (I) LIVE AND ARCHIVED VIDEO STREAMING OF EACH  
11 COMMISSION MEETING;

12 (II) MEETING AGENDAS, MATERIALS, AND NOTES; AND

13 (III) COMMISSION REPORTS; AND

14 (4) USE MULTIPLE COMMUNICATIONS METHODS TO PROVIDE  
15 UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS RELATED TO THE COMMISSION.

16 (I) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 30 EACH YEAR, BEGINNING IN 2024, THE  
17 COMMISSION SHALL REPORT ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE  
18 BOARD, THE GOVERNOR, AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE  
19 GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

20 (J) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1 EACH YEAR, THE STATE BOARD SHALL:

21 (1) REVIEW THE COMMISSION'S FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS;  
22 AND

23 (2) MAKE ANY APPROPRIATE CHANGES TO THE EDUCATIONAL  
24 STANDARDS FOR PREKINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 12.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the initial  
26 members of the Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in Education shall expire as  
27 follows:

28 (1) the eight members representing the indigenous American tribes,  
29 Maryland Latinx community, African American community, and Asian American and  
30 Pacific Islander community in 2026; and

1                   (2)    the six members representing the LGBTQI+ community, differently  
2   abled community, teachers, and higher education in 2028.

3                   SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
4   1, 2024.