

HOUSE BILL 157

F1
HB 738/23 – APP

(PRE-FILED)

4lr1082

By: **Delegate Griffith**

Requested: October 23, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Schools – Appropriations for School Safety Expenditures – Increase**
3 **(School Safety Enhancement Act of 2024)**

4 FOR the purpose of increasing certain annual appropriations for certain school safety
5 expenditures beginning in a certain fiscal year; and generally relating to
6 appropriations for school safety expenditures.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

8 Article – Education

9 Section 7–1508(e) and 7–1512(a) and (b)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

13 Article – Education

14 Section 7–1508(g) and 7–1512(g)

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Education**

20 7–1508.

21 (e) (1) Before the 2018–2019 school year begins, each local school system shall
22 file a report with the Center identifying:

23 (i) The public high schools in the local school system’s jurisdiction

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 that have a school resource officer assigned to the school; and

2 (ii) If a public high school in the local school system's jurisdiction is
3 not assigned a school resource officer, the adequate local law enforcement coverage that
4 will be provided to the public high school.

5 (2) Beginning with the 2019–2020 school year, and each school year
6 thereafter, before the school year begins, each local school system shall, in accordance with
7 the plan developed under subsection (d)(2) of this section, file a report identifying:

8 (i) The public schools in the local school system's jurisdiction that
9 have a school resource officer assigned to the school; and

10 (ii) If a public school in the local school system's jurisdiction is not
11 assigned a school resource officer, the adequate local law enforcement coverage that will be
12 provided to the public school.

13 (3) On or before October 1, 2018, and each October 1 thereafter, the Center
14 shall submit a summary of the reports required under this subsection to the Governor and,
15 in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

16 (g) (1) **(I) [For] BEGINNING IN** fiscal year 2020 and [each fiscal year
17 thereafter] **ENDING IN FISCAL YEAR 2025**, the Governor shall include in the annual
18 budget bill an appropriation of \$10,000,000 to the Fund for the purpose of providing grants
19 to local school systems and local law enforcement agencies to assist in meeting the
20 requirements of subsection (e) of this section.

21 **(II) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR**
22 **THEREAFTER, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN**
23 **APPROPRIATION OF \$20,000,000 TO THE FUND FOR THE PURPOSE IDENTIFIED IN**
24 **SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.**

25 (2) Grants provided under this subsection shall be made to each local
26 school system based on the number of schools in each school system in proportion to the
27 total number of public schools in the State in the prior year.

28 7–1512.

29 (a) There is a Safe Schools Fund.

30 (b) The purpose of the Fund is to provide grants to local school systems to enhance
31 school safety.

32 (g) [Beginning in fiscal year 2020 and each fiscal year thereafter, at least
33 \$10,000,000 of the money in the Fund] **THE FOLLOWING AMOUNTS** shall be used to
34 provide grants to local school systems and local law enforcement agencies as provided under

1 § 7–1508 of this subtitle:

2 **(1) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2020 AND ENDING IN FISCAL YEAR**
3 **2025, \$10,000,000; AND**

4 **(2) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2026 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR**
5 **THEREAFTER, \$20,000,000.**

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
7 1, 2024.