

HOUSE BILL 1164

F1

4lr2590

By: **Delegates Smith and Toles**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2024

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Nonpublic Schools – Transcripts – Prohibition on Punitive Measures Related to**
3 **Student Debt**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting nonpublic schools that participate in State-funded
5 education programs from refusing to provide a current or former student or the
6 student’s parent or guardian with a transcript or taking other punitive measures
7 regarding a student’s transcript request because the student owes a debt to the
8 nonpublic school; and generally relating to the prohibition on punitive measures by
9 nonpublic schools regarding transcript requests from students who owe debts to the
10 nonpublic school.

11 BY adding to
12 Article – Education
13 Section 7–118
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Education**

19 **7–118.**

20 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
21 **INDICATED.**

22 **(2) (I) “DEBT” MEANS ANY MONEY, OBLIGATION, CLAIM, OR SUM**
23 **DUE OR OWED BY A STUDENT OR FORMER STUDENT TO A NONPUBLIC SCHOOL.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(II) “DEBT” DOES NOT INCLUDE THE FEE, IF ANY, CHARGED TO**
2 **A STUDENT FOR THE ACTUAL COSTS OF PROVIDING A TRANSCRIPT.**

3 **(3) “NONPUBLIC SCHOOL” MEANS A NONPUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE**
4 **STATE THAT PARTICIPATES IN STATE-FUNDED EDUCATION PROGRAMS.**

5 **(4) “STUDENT” INCLUDES CURRENT STUDENTS AND FORMER**
6 **STUDENTS OF A NONPUBLIC SCHOOL.**

7 **(B) A NONPUBLIC SCHOOL MAY NOT:**

8 **(1) REFUSE TO PROVIDE A TRANSCRIPT TO A STUDENT OR THE**
9 **PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF A STUDENT BECAUSE THE STUDENT OWES A DEBT;**

10 **(2) CONDITION THE ISSUANCE OF A TRANSCRIPT ON THE PAYMENT**
11 **OF A DEBT;**

12 **(3) CHARGE A HIGHER FEE FOR OBTAINING A TRANSCRIPT BECAUSE**
13 **THE STUDENT OWES A DEBT;**

14 **(4) PROVIDE LESS FAVORABLE TREATMENT OF A TRANSCRIPT**
15 **REQUEST BECAUSE A STUDENT OWES A DEBT; OR**

16 **(5) USE TRANSCRIPT ISSUANCE AS A TOOL OF DEBT COLLECTION.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
18 1, 2024.