

HOUSE BILL 1373

F3

4lr2568

By: **Delegate Fisher**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2024

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Calvert County Public Schools – Extracurricular Activities for Homeschooled**
3 **Students – Pilot Program and Workgroup**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Extracurricular Activities for Homeschooled Students
5 Pilot Program in Calvert County to allow homeschooled students to participate in
6 extracurricular activities sponsored by public schools in the county; establishing the
7 Workgroup to Study Access to Extracurricular Activities in Calvert County Public
8 Schools for Homeschooled Students; and generally relating to the Extracurricular
9 Activities for Homeschooled Students Pilot Program and the Workgroup to Study
10 Access to Extracurricular Activities in Calvert County Public Schools for
11 Homeschooled Students.

12 BY adding to
13 Article – Education
14 Section 4–142
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 **4–142.**

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

23 **(2) “EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY” INCLUDES INTERSCHOLASTIC**
24 **ATHLETICS, MUSIC, DRAMA PROGRAMS, STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS, AND OTHER**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 PROGRAMS SPONSORED BY A SCHOOL:

2 (I) IN WHICH A STUDENT MAY PARTICIPATE OUTSIDE REGULAR
3 SCHOOL HOURS; AND

4 (II) FOR WHICH A STUDENT DOES NOT EARN ACADEMIC CREDIT.

5 (3) "PILOT PROGRAM" MEANS THE EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
6 FOR HOMESCHOOLED STUDENTS PILOT PROGRAM.

7 (B) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IN CALVERT COUNTY.

8 (C) (1) THERE IS AN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES FOR
9 HOMESCHOOLED STUDENTS PILOT PROGRAM.

10 (2) THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IS TO ALLOW A STUDENT
11 WHO PARTICIPATES IN A HOME INSTRUCTION PROGRAM IN CALVERT COUNTY TO
12 PARTICIPATE IN AN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY SPONSORED BY A PUBLIC SCHOOL
13 IN THE COUNTY.

14 (D) (1) CALVERT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS SHALL ADMINISTER THE
15 PILOT PROGRAM.

16 (2) THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL BEGIN IN THE 2025–2026 SCHOOL
17 YEAR AND LAST FOR 3 YEARS.

18 (E) (1) THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL SELECT UP TO FIVE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
19 IN THE COUNTY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM.

20 (2) EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE PILOT PROGRAM SHALL ALLOW A
21 STUDENT WHO IS NOT ENROLLED IN THE SCHOOL TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY
22 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY SPONSORED BY THE SCHOOL TO THE SAME EXTENT
23 THAT A STUDENT WHO IS ENROLLED IN THE SCHOOL MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE
24 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY IF THE STUDENT WHO IS NOT ENROLLED:

25 (I) PARTICIPATES IN A HOME INSTRUCTION PROGRAM UNDER
26 WRITTEN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT;

27 (II) IS ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SPONSORING
28 THE EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY; AND

29 (III) MEETS AND COMPLIES WITH THE PUBLIC SCHOOL'S
30 REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY.

1 (F) THE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM SHALL:

2 (1) (I) ESTABLISH A POLICY AND GUIDELINES FOR THE
3 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PILOT PROGRAM; AND

4 (II) DISTRIBUTE COPIES OF THE POLICY AND GUIDELINES TO
5 EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL PARTICIPATING IN THE PILOT PROGRAM; AND

6 (2) COLLECT DATA FROM EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL PARTICIPATING IN
7 THE PILOT PROGRAM ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

8 (I) ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING PUBLIC
9 NOTICE, STAFF RESOURCES, TECHNOLOGY, PHYSICAL SPACE, AND LEGAL
10 LIABILITIES;

11 (II) COSTS OF OPERATING THE PILOT PROGRAM;

12 (III) STUDENT PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS,
13 INCLUDING ACADEMIC, HEALTH, AND BEHAVIORAL MANDATES ACROSS ALL TYPES
14 OF EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES OFFERED;

15 (IV) IDENTIFYING AND PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL
16 ACCOMMODATIONS FOR NONENROLLED STUDENTS;

17 (V) TRANSPORTATION OF NONENROLLED STUDENTS,
18 INCLUDING COSTS, MANDATES, AND LEGAL LIABILITY; AND

19 (VI) STUDENT PROGRAM ENROLLMENT LIMITS.

20 (G) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2026, THROUGH 2029, THE COUNTY
21 SUPERINTENDENT SHALL REPORT TO THE CALVERT COUNTY BOARD OF
22 EDUCATION AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT
23 ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGARDING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE
24 PILOT PROGRAM, INCLUDING:

25 (1) THE NUMBER OF HOMESCHOOLED STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN
26 THE PILOT PROGRAM FROM EACH PARTICIPATING PUBLIC SCHOOL;

27 (2) INFORMATION COLLECTED BY THE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM
28 UNDER SUBSECTION (F)(2) OF THIS SECTION;

29 (3) FEEDBACK FROM THE FOLLOWING GROUPS WHO PARTICIPATED

1 **IN THE PILOT PROGRAM:**

2 **(I) HOMESCHOOLED STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS OR**
3 **GUARDIANS;**

4 **(II) PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS OR**
5 **GUARDIANS AT PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS; AND**

6 **(III) SCHOOL PERSONNEL AT PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS; AND**

7 **(4) RECOMMENDATIONS TO EXPAND OR DISCONTINUE THE PILOT**
8 **PROGRAM.**

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

10 (a) There is a Workgroup to Study Access to Extracurricular Activities in Calvert
11 County Public Schools for Homeschooled Students.

12 (b) The Workgroup consists of the following members:

13 (1) the Superintendent of Calvert County Schools;

14 (2) one member of the Board of Calvert County Commissioners, appointed
15 by the Chair of the Board of Calvert County Commissioners;

16 (3) one member of the Calvert County Board of Education, appointed by
17 the Chair of the Calvert County Board of Education; and

18 (4) two parents of homeschooled students who reside in Calvert County,
19 designated by the Maryland Homeschool Association.

20 (c) The Workgroup members shall elect the chair of the Workgroup from among
21 its appointed members.

22 (d) The Calvert County Board of Education shall provide staff for the Workgroup.

23 (e) A member of the Workgroup:

24 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Workgroup; but

25 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
26 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

27 (f) The Workgroup shall:

1 (1) study the following issues regarding homeschooled student
2 participation in extracurricular activities sponsored by public schools in the county:

3 (i) administrative requirements, including public notice, staff
4 resources, technology, physical space, and legal liabilities;

5 (ii) costs of providing services not covered by State and local funding;

6 (iii) student program eligibility requirements, including academic,
7 health, and behavioral mandates across all types of extracurricular activities offered;

8 (iv) identifying and providing educational accommodations for
9 nonenrolled students;

10 (v) transportation of nonenrolled students, including costs,
11 mandates, and legal liability; and

12 (vi) student program enrollment limits;

13 (2) study and evaluate data from other states or jurisdictions, if any, that
14 allow homeschooled students or other nonenrolled students to participate in
15 extracurricular activities sponsored by a public school; and

16 (3) make recommendations as to the administrative, financial, and
17 logistical feasibility of homeschooled student participation in extracurricular activities
18 sponsored by public schools in Calvert County.

19 (g) On or before December 31, 2024, the Workgroup shall report its findings and
20 recommendations to the Board of Calvert County Commissioners, the Calvert County
21 Board of Education, and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the
22 members of the Calvert County Delegation to the General Assembly.

23 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
24 1, 2024. Section 2 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of
25 June 30, 2025, Section 2 of this Act, with no further action required by the General
26 Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect. Section 1 of this Act shall
27 remain effective for a period of 6 years and, at the end of June 30, 2030, this Act, with no
28 further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force
29 and effect.