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By: **Delegates Amedori, Getty, Stocksdale, Elliott, Brinkley, Stull,  
Kittleman, Leopold, Donoghue, DeCarlo, Boutin, Baldwin, Greenip,  
Ports, Boschert, and Parrott**

Introduced and read first time: January 17, 2001  
Assigned to: Ways and Means

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2                                   **Education - Public Schools - Firearms Safety and Accident Avoidance**  
3                                   **Program**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Board of Education to establish a certain  
5 firearms safety and accident avoidance program for certain students to be  
6 implemented by each county board of education; requiring the State Board to  
7 develop, in conjunction with certain State and local agencies, guidelines and  
8 curricula for the program in accordance with certain criteria; requiring each  
9 county board to implement the program; authorizing a county board to  
10 implement the program in conjunction with certain State and local agencies;  
11 authorizing a county board to implement certain supplemental firearms safety  
12 and accident avoidance programs; making a stylistic change; and generally  
13 relating to a firearms safety and accident avoidance program in public schools in  
14 the State.

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
16 Article - Education  
17 Section 2-205(h)  
18 Annotated Code of Maryland  
19 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

20 BY adding to  
21 Article - Education  
22 Section 7-411.1  
23 Annotated Code of Maryland  
24 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

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

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**Article - Education**

2 2-205.

3 (h) (1) With the advice of the State Superintendent, the State Board shall  
4 establish basic policy and guidelines for the program of instruction for the public  
5 schools.

6 (2) The policy and guidelines shall be printed in sufficient quantities to  
7 provide copies to:

8 (i) Public school officials and teachers;

9 (ii) Private schools; and

10 (iii) Interested citizens of this State.

11 (3) The State Board [of Education] shall require the establishment of  
12 criteria in each county for the selection of applicants for enrollment in public  
13 secondary school career and technology education programs. Enrollment criteria  
14 developed for this purpose shall ensure equal access to programs.

15 (4) THE STATE BOARD SHALL:

16 (I) ESTABLISH A FIREARMS SAFETY AND ACCIDENT AVOIDANCE  
17 PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS IN KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 6 TO BE  
18 IMPLEMENTED BY EACH COUNTY BOARD; AND

19 (II) IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL  
20 RESOURCES, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE, AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT  
21 AGENCIES, DEVELOP GUIDELINES AND CURRICULA FOR THE PROGRAM THAT:

22 1. ARE APPROPRIATE FOR STUDENTS IN EACH GRADE  
23 LEVEL; AND

24 2. PROVIDE COUNTY BOARDS FLEXIBILITY TO MEET THE  
25 DIVERSE NEEDS OF EACH COUNTY IN THE STATE.

26 7-411.1.

27 (A) EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL IMPLEMENT A FIREARMS SAFETY AND  
28 ACCIDENT AVOIDANCE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE BOARD UNDER §  
29 2-205(H)(4) OF THIS ARTICLE.

30 (B) A COUNTY BOARD MAY IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM IN CONJUNCTION  
31 WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
32 POLICE, OR A LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

33 (C) A COUNTY BOARD MAY IMPLEMENT ADDITIONAL FIREARMS SAFETY AND  
34 ACCIDENT AVOIDANCE PROGRAMS THAT SUPPLEMENT THE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED  
35 BY THE STATE BOARD.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2 July 1, 2001.