

# HOUSE BILL 593

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By: **Delegates Stifler, Bartlett, Dwyer, Glassman, James, Kach, J. King, Kipke, McComas, Olszewski, Riley, Ross, Shank, Shewell, Smigiel, Stull, and Tarrant**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2007

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Schools – School Computers – Internet Filters**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring county boards of education to adopt and implement  
4 certain policies and procedures to prevent certain minors from using Internet  
5 services on school computers to access certain obscene or pornographic  
6 materials on or before a certain date; requiring county boards to submit certain  
7 policies and procedures to the State Superintendent of Schools for review;  
8 requiring a county board or a designee of a county board to conduct certain  
9 monitoring of certain computers; defining certain terms; and generally relating  
10 to Internet filters on public school computers.

11 BY adding to

12 Article – Education

13 Section 7–426

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2006 Replacement Volume)

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

18 **Article – Education**

19 **7–426.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE  
2 MEANINGS INDICATED.

3                   (2) “CHILD PORNOGRAPHY” MEANS A VIOLATION OF § 11-207 OF  
4 THE CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE.

5                   (3) “COUNTY BOARD” INCLUDES THE BALTIMORE CITY BOARD  
6 OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS.

7                   (4) “OBSCENE” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 11-203 OF THE  
8 CRIMINAL LAW ARTICLE.

9           (B) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2008, EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL:

10                   (1) ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO  
11 PREVENT MINORS FROM OBTAINING ACCESS THROUGH SCHOOL COMPUTERS,  
12 BY MEANS OF THE INTERNET, THE WORLD WIDE WEB, USENET, OR ANY OTHER  
13 INTERACTIVE COMPUTER SERVICE TO MATERIALS THAT ARE OBSCENE OR  
14 CONSTITUTE CHILD PORNOGRAPHY; AND

15                   (2) SUBMIT THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES REQUIRED UNDER  
16 THIS SECTION TO THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT FOR REVIEW.

17           (C) A COUNTY BOARD OR A DESIGNEE OF THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL  
18 REGULARLY MONITOR SCHOOL COMPUTERS IN THE SCHOOLS WITHIN THE  
19 JURISDICTION OF THE COUNTY BOARD TO DETERMINE WHETHER EACH SCHOOL  
20 IS COMPLYING WITH THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ADOPTED FOR  
21 PREVENTING A MINOR FROM OBTAINING INTERNET ACCESS TO OBSCENE  
22 MATERIALS THROUGH THE LIBRARY.

23           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
24 July 1, 2007.