

HOUSE BILL 1243

F1, F2

8lr2903

By: **Delegate Conaway**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2008

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Department of Education and the Maryland Higher Education**
3 **Commission Study – Sexual Offenses Against Spouses – Student Knowledge**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Department of Education and the Maryland
5 Higher Education Commission to collaborate on a certain study relating to
6 student knowledge of certain issues relating to domestic violence, spousal
7 sexual abuse, spousal assault, and marital rape; requiring the Department and
8 the Commission to conduct certain surveys and utilize certain methodologies;
9 specifying the purpose of the study; requiring the Department and the
10 Commission to make a certain report by a certain date; providing for the
11 termination of this Act; and generally relating to the study of student
12 knowledge of sexual offenses against spouses.

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That:

15 (a) The State Department of Education and the Maryland Higher Education
16 Commission shall collaborate on a study of high school students and students
17 attending institutions of postsecondary education in the State on matters relating to
18 awareness of and attitudes concerning domestic violence, spousal sexual abuse,
19 spousal assault, marital rape, and related matters.

20 (b) In performing their duties, the State Department of Education and the
21 Maryland Higher Education Commission shall conduct surveys and utilize other
22 methodologies to elicit and evaluate student attitudes and knowledge of laws relating
23 to domestic violence, spousal sexual abuse, spousal assault, and marital rape.

24 (c) The purpose of the study is to evaluate whether middle school students, high
25 school students, and students attending institutions of postsecondary education in the
26 State could benefit from curriculum changes that would incorporate instruction on
27 these issues.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (d) The State Department of Education and the Maryland Higher Education
2 Commission shall report their findings and recommendations to the Governor and,
3 subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly, on or
4 before October 1, 2010.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 October 1, 2008. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of
7 September 30, 2010, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act
8 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.