

HOUSE BILL 571

F1

4lr2142

By: **Delegates Kaiser, Barkley, Barnes, Bates, Carr, Clagett, Healey, Luedtke, Reznik, Sophocleus, F. Turner, Valderrama, Valentino-Smith, A. Washington, and Zucker**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2014

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 7, 2014

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **School Counselors – Role Expansion in Public Middle and High Schools**

3 FOR the purpose of stating a certain goal of the State regarding a certain ratio of
4 school counselors to students; requiring each local school system to develop and
5 adopt a certain plan on or before a certain date; ~~requiring~~ stating a certain goal
6 of the State that certain school counselors ~~to~~ spend a certain percentage of time
7 performing certain activities; ~~requiring~~ authorizing each local school system to
8 share certain resources and technology available for certain school counselors;
9 ~~requiring~~ authorizing certain county boards of education to develop a certain
10 transition plan using existing resources of a certain local school system;
11 ~~requiring~~ authorizing the State Board of Education to develop and distribute
12 certain guidelines; ~~requiring~~ authorizing the State Board in collaboration with
13 certain county boards to adopt certain regulations; ~~requiring the State~~
14 ~~Department of Education to provide a certain notice if a certain grant is~~
15 ~~received; making this Act contingent on the receipt of a certain grant; declaring~~
16 the intent of the General Assembly; and generally relating to school counselors
17 in public middle and high schools.

18 BY adding to

19 Article – Education

20 Section 6–122

21 Annotated Code of Maryland

22 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



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

3 Article – Education

4 6–122.

5 (A) (1) IT IS THE GOAL OF THE STATE ~~to~~:

6 (I) TO ACHIEVE A RATIO OF AT LEAST ONE SCHOOL
7 COUNSELOR TO EVERY 250 STUDENTS IN EVERY PUBLIC MIDDLE AND HIGH
8 SCHOOL IN THE STATE BY 2020; AND

9 (II) THAT A SCHOOL COUNSELOR SHALL SPEND AT LEAST
10 80% OF THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR’S TIME PERFORMING DIRECT SERVICES TO
11 STUDENTS, INCLUDING:

12 1. DELIVERING SCHOOL GUIDANCE CURRICULUM
13 THROUGH LARGE GROUP GUIDANCE, INTERDISCIPLINARY CURRICULUM
14 DEVELOPMENT, GROUP ACTIVITIES, AND PARENT WORKSHOPS;

15 2. GUIDING INDIVIDUAL STUDENT ACADEMIC AND
16 PERSONAL PLANNING THROUGH INDIVIDUAL OR SMALL GROUP ASSISTANCE
17 AND ADVISEMENT;

18 3. PROVIDING RESPONSIVE SERVICES THROUGH
19 CONSULTATION WITH STUDENTS, FAMILIES, AND STAFF, INDIVIDUAL AND
20 SMALL GROUP COUNSELING, CRISIS COUNSELING, AND PEER FACILITATION;
21 AND

22 4. PERFORMING OTHER STUDENT SERVICES LISTED
23 IN A SCHOOL COUNSELOR JOB DESCRIPTION THAT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE
24 STATE BOARD.

25 (2) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2016, EACH LOCAL SCHOOL
26 SYSTEM SHALL DEVELOP AND ADOPT A PLAN REGARDING HOW TO ACHIEVE A
27 RATIO OF AT LEAST ONE SCHOOL COUNSELOR TO EVERY 250 STUDENTS.

28 (B) (1) ~~A SCHOOL COUNSELOR SHALL SPEND AT LEAST 80% OF THE~~
29 ~~SCHOOL COUNSELOR’S TIME PERFORMING DIRECT SERVICES TO STUDENTS,~~
30 ~~INCLUDING:~~

1 ~~(I) DELIVERING SCHOOL GUIDANCE CURRICULUM~~
2 ~~THROUGH LARGE GROUP GUIDANCE, INTERDISCIPLINARY CURRICULUM~~
3 ~~DEVELOPMENT, GROUP ACTIVITIES, AND PARENT WORKSHOPS;~~

4 ~~(II) GUIDING INDIVIDUAL STUDENT ACADEMIC AND~~
5 ~~PERSONAL PLANNING THROUGH INDIVIDUAL OR SMALL GROUP ASSISTANCE~~
6 ~~AND ADVISEMENT;~~

7 ~~(III) PROVIDING RESPONSIVE SERVICES THROUGH~~
8 ~~CONSULTATION WITH STUDENTS, FAMILIES, AND STAFF, INDIVIDUAL AND~~
9 ~~SMALL GROUP COUNSELING, CRISIS COUNSELING, AND PEER FACILITATION;~~
10 ~~AND~~

11 ~~(IV) PERFORMING OTHER STUDENT SERVICES LISTED IN A~~
12 ~~SCHOOL COUNSELOR JOB DESCRIPTION THAT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE~~
13 ~~STATE BOARD.~~

14 ~~(2) THE STATE BOARD SHALL MAY DEVELOP AND DISTRIBUTE~~
15 ~~GUIDELINES TO EACH LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM TO ASSIST WITH THE~~
16 ~~IMPLEMENTATION OF PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION IN ATTAINING THE~~
17 ~~GOAL SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (A)(1)(II) OF THIS SECTION.~~

18 ~~(3) (2) USING EXISTING RESOURCES OF THE LOCAL SCHOOL~~
19 ~~SYSTEM, EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL MAY DEVELOP A TRANSITION PLAN FOR~~
20 ~~IMPLEMENTING SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.~~

21 (C) EACH LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM ~~SHALL MAY~~ SHARE RESOURCES AND
22 TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS TO ENHANCE THE
23 EFFICIENT UTILIZATION OF TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES IN THE
24 PERFORMANCE OF A SCHOOL COUNSELOR'S FUNCTIONS.

25 (D) THE STATE BOARD, IN COLLABORATION WITH EACH COUNTY
26 BOARD, ~~SHALL MAY~~ ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.

27 ~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect~~
28 ~~contingent on the receipt of a United States Department of Education Elementary and~~
29 ~~Secondary School Counseling Programs grant by the State Department of Education.~~
30 ~~If a grant is received, the State Department of Education shall notify the Department~~
31 ~~of Legislative Services within 5 days after the grant is received. If notice of receipt of a~~
32 ~~grant is not received by the Department of Legislative Services on or before December~~
33 ~~1, 2015, this Act shall be null and void without the necessity of further action by the~~
34 ~~General Assembly.~~

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1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the
2 General Assembly that the State Department of Education and the county boards of
3 education apply for available federal funding or grants for school counseling programs.

4 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, ~~subject to Section 2 of~~
5 ~~this Act,~~ this Act shall take effect October 1, 2014.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.