

HOUSE BILL 980

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7lr3300

By: **Delegates West, Sophocleus, Chang, Aumann, and Valentino-Smith**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2017

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Children Exempt From Public School Attendance – Participation in Public High**
3 **School Clubs and Activities**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring certain local school systems to allow a certain child who is
5 exempt from public school attendance to participate in certain clubs and activities
6 beginning on a certain date; requiring a certain child to participate in certain clubs
7 and activities in a certain manner; authorizing certain public high schools to assess
8 a certain child to determine whether the child meets certain academic requirements;
9 requiring a certain public high school to use a certain assessment when assessing a
10 child under this Act; authorizing the State Department of Education to adopt certain
11 regulations; defining certain terms; and generally relating to children exempt from
12 public school attendance in the State.

13 BY adding to

14 Article – Education

15 Section 7–124

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

19 Article – Education

20 Section 7–203.3(a)

21 Annotated Code of Maryland

22 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

23 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

24 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

25 **Article – Education**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 7-124.

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

4 (2) "ACTIVITIES" INCLUDES INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS.

5 (3) "ASSESSMENT" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 7-203.3 OF THIS
6 TITLE.

7 (B) (1) BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1, 2017, A LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM
8 SHALL ALLOW A CHILD EXEMPT FROM MANDATORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IN
9 ACCORDANCE WITH § 7-301 OF THIS TITLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
10 EXTRACURRICULAR CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE
11 SCHOOL SYSTEM.

12 (2) A CHILD WHO PARTICIPATES IN AN EXTRACURRICULAR CLUB OR
13 ACTIVITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL:

14 (I) PARTICIPATE WITH THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL TO WHICH
15 THE CHILD WOULD BE ASSIGNED IF THE CHILD WERE TO ATTEND A PUBLIC HIGH
16 SCHOOL IN THE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM;

17 (II) MEET THE SAME ELIGIBILITY OR TRYOUT CRITERIA FOR
18 PARTICIPATION IN THE EXTRACURRICULAR CLUB OR ACTIVITY AS A STUDENT WHO
19 ATTENDS THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL;

20 (III) MEET EQUIVALENT ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR
21 PARTICIPATION IN THE EXTRACURRICULAR CLUB OR ACTIVITY AS A STUDENT WHO
22 ATTENDS THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL;

23 (IV) COMPLY WITH THE SAME RESPONSIBILITIES AND
24 STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE AND BEHAVIOR, INCLUDING PRACTICE
25 REQUIREMENTS, THAT ARE REQUIRED OF A STUDENT WHO ATTENDS THE PUBLIC
26 HIGH SCHOOL AND PARTICIPATES IN THE EXTRACURRICULAR CLUB OR ACTIVITY;

27 (V) PAY ANY OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE
28 PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL AS A RESULT OF THE CHILD'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE
29 EXTRACURRICULAR CLUB OR ACTIVITY; AND

30 (VI) ON OR BEFORE THE THIRD DAY OF THE SEMESTER IN WHICH
31 THE CHILD INTENDS TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EXTRACURRICULAR CLUB OR ACTIVITY;

1 **1. NOTIFY THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL THAT THE CHILD**
2 **INTENDS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EXTRACURRICULAR CLUB OR ACTIVITY; AND**

3 **2. COMPLETE ANY ASSOCIATED REGISTRATION**
4 **INFORMATION.**

5 **(C) (1) A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL MAY ASSESS A CHILD WHO INTENDS TO**
6 **PARTICIPATE IN AN EXTRACURRICULAR CLUB OR ACTIVITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH**
7 **THIS SECTION TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE CHILD MEETS THE ACADEMIC**
8 **REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(2)(III) OF THIS SECTION.**

9 **(2) A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL THAT ASSESSES A CHILD UNDER THIS**
10 **SUBSECTION SHALL USE THE SAME ASSESSMENTS THAT IT USES FOR ASSESSING A**
11 **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT’S ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE**
12 **EXTRACURRICULAR CLUB OR ACTIVITY.**

13 **(D) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE**
14 **REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.**

15 7-203.3.

16 (a) (1) In this section, “assessment” means a locally, State, or federally
17 mandated test that is intended to measure a student’s academic readiness, learning
18 progress, and skill acquisition.

19 (2) “Assessment” does not include a teacher-developed quiz or test.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
21 1, 2017.