

SENATE BILL 232

F1

(7lr1233)

ENROLLED BILL

— Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs/Ways and Means —

Introduced by **Senators Manno, Benson, Conway, Feldman, Kelley, King, Lee, Madaleno, Muse, Nathan-Pulliam, Robinson, Smith, and Zucker**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this _____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Pregnant and Parenting Students – Attendance Policy**

3 FOR the purpose of specifying that certain absences from school are lawful absences under
4 certain circumstances; requiring each county board of education to develop a certain
5 attendance policy for pregnant and parenting students *that, at a minimum, excuses*
6 *certain absences under certain circumstances and provides a certain number of days*
7 *of excused absences for certain students under certain circumstances; authorizing*
8 *certain schools to allow certain students to make up the work that the student missed*
9 *in a certain time period and to choose the method by which to make up the work that*
10 *the student missed; requiring each county board to publish its attendance policy for*
11 *pregnant and parenting students on the county board's Web site* ~~that excuses certain~~
12 ~~absences under certain circumstances and provides a certain number of days of~~
13 ~~excused absences for certain students under certain circumstances; requiring certain~~
14 ~~schools to allow certain students to make up the work that the student missed in a~~

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.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



~~certain time period and to choose the method by which to make up the work that the student missed; and generally relating to absences from school for pregnant and parenting students.~~

BY adding to

Article – Education

Section 7–301.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

7–301.1.

(A) A STUDENT’S ABSENCE DUE TO A STUDENT’S PREGNANCY OR PARENTING NEEDS IS A LAWFUL ABSENCE AS PROVIDED UNDER AS PROVIDED UNDER IF TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH A POLICY ADOPTED BY A COUNTY BOARD UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.

(B) EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL DEVELOP A WRITTEN ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS THAT, AT A MINIMUM, MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION ~~THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.~~

(C) (1) THE POLICY DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION SHALL:

(I) EXCUSE ALL ABSENCES DUE TO PREGNANCY– OR PARENTING–RELATED CONDITIONS, INCLUDING ABSENCES FOR:

1. LABOR;

2. DELIVERY;

3. RECOVERY; AND

4. PRENATAL AND POSTNATAL MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS;

(II) PROVIDE AT LEAST 10 DAYS OF EXCUSED ABSENCES FOR A PARENTING STUDENT AFTER THE BIRTH OF THE STUDENT’S CHILD;

1 (III) EXCUSE ANY PARENTING-RELATED ABSENCES DUE TO AN
 2 ILLNESS OR A MEDICAL APPOINTMENT OF THE STUDENT'S CHILD, INCLUDING UP TO
 3 4 DAYS OF ABSENCES PER SCHOOL YEAR FOR WHICH THE SCHOOL MAY NOT REQUIRE
 4 A NOTE FROM A PHYSICIAN; AND

5 (IV) EXCUSE ANY ABSENCE DUE TO A LEGAL APPOINTMENT
 6 INVOLVING THE PREGNANT OR PARENTING STUDENT THAT IS RELATED TO FAMILY
 7 LAW PROCEEDINGS, INCLUDING ADOPTION, CUSTODY, AND VISITATION.

8 (2) IN ADDITION TO HOME AND HOSPITAL SERVICES, THE SCHOOL
 9 MAY ALLOW THE STUDENT TO:

10 (I) MAKE UP THE WORK THAT THE STUDENT MISSED IN A TIME
 11 PERIOD THAT EQUALS AT LEAST AS MANY DAYS THAT THE STUDENT WAS ABSENT;
 12 AND

13 (II) CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVES TO MAKE
 14 UP WORK THAT THE STUDENT MISSED:

15 1. RETAKE A SEMESTER;

16 2. PARTICIPATE IN AN ONLINE COURSE CREDIT
 17 RECOVERY PROGRAM; OR

18 3. ALLOW THE STUDENT 6 WEEKS TO CONTINUE AT THE
 19 SAME PACE AND FINISH AT A LATER DATE.

20 (3) EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL PUBLISH ITS WRITTEN ATTENDANCE
 21 POLICY FOR PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS ON THE COUNTY BOARD'S WEB
 22 SITE.

23 ~~(C) (1) THE POLICY DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS~~
 24 ~~SECTION SHALL:~~

25 ~~(I) EXCUSE ALL ABSENCES DUE TO PREGNANCY OR~~
 26 ~~PARENTING-RELATED CONDITIONS, INCLUDING ABSENCES FOR:~~

27 ~~1. LABOR;~~

28 ~~2. DELIVERY;~~

29 ~~3. RECOVERY; AND~~

1 ~~4. PRENATAL AND POSTNATAL MEDICAL~~
2 ~~APPOINTMENTS;~~

3 ~~(H) EXCUSE ANY PREGNANCY RELATED ABSENCES THAT ARE~~
4 ~~DEEMED MEDICALLY NECESSARY BY THE STUDENT'S PHYSICIAN;~~

5 ~~(HH) PROVIDE AT LEAST 10 DAYS OF EXCUSED ABSENCES FOR A~~
6 ~~PARENTING STUDENT AFTER THE BIRTH OF THE STUDENT'S CHILD;~~

7 ~~(IV) EXCUSE ANY PARENTING RELATED ABSENCES DUE TO AN~~
8 ~~ILLNESS OR A MEDICAL APPOINTMENT OF THE STUDENT'S CHILD, INCLUDING UP TO~~
9 ~~4 DAYS OF ABSENCES PER SCHOOL YEAR FOR WHICH THE SCHOOL MAY NOT REQUIRE~~
10 ~~A NOTE FROM A PHYSICIAN; AND~~

11 ~~(V) EXCUSE ANY ABSENCE DUE TO A LEGAL APPOINTMENT~~
12 ~~INVOLVING THE PREGNANT OR PARENTING STUDENT THAT IS RELATED TO FAMILY~~
13 ~~LAW PROCEEDINGS, INCLUDING ADOPTION, CUSTODY, AND VISITATION.~~

14 ~~(2) AT THE CONCLUSION OF ANY PREGNANCY OR~~
15 ~~PARENTING RELATED PERIOD OF ABSENCE, THE SCHOOL SHALL ALLOW THE~~
16 ~~STUDENT TO:~~

17 ~~(i) MAKE UP THE WORK THAT THE STUDENT MISSED IN A TIME~~
18 ~~PERIOD THAT EQUALS AT LEAST AS MANY DAYS THAT THE STUDENT WAS ABSENT;~~
19 ~~AND~~

20 ~~(ii) CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVES TO MAKE~~
21 ~~UP WORK THAT THE STUDENT MISSED:~~

22 ~~1. RETAKE A SEMESTER;~~

23 ~~2. PARTICIPATE IN AN ONLINE COURSE CREDIT~~
24 ~~RECOVERY PROGRAM; OR~~

25 ~~3. ALLOW THE STUDENT 6 WEEKS TO CONTINUE AT THE~~
26 ~~SAME PACE AND FINISH AT A LATER DATE.~~

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
28 1, 2017.