

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 1386  
Ways and Means

(Delegate Valentino-Smith, *et al.*)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Public Schools – Reporting Child Abuse – Telephone Number

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This bill encourages each public school in the State to post the appropriate telephone number for reporting suspected child abuse or neglect conspicuously in a high-traffic, widely used area. The bill also requires each local school board to ensure that the appropriate telephone number for reporting suspected child abuse or neglect is published in each public school’s student handbook and on the website of the local board or local school system. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018.**

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** The bill does not materially affect local finances or operations. Local school systems can publish the required notification with existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law/Background:** According to the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), local school systems and MSDE provide professional development on child abuse and neglect reporting to school staff annually. School counselors and other professionals make information about child abuse prevention and reporting available to students and families in a variety of ways, including at parent meetings, mailings to home, and by making educational materials available at the school.

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## Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland State Department of Education; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 21, 2018  
mag/hlb Third Reader - March 23, 2018  
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