

Chapter 556

(House Bill 1136)

AN ACT concerning

~~Frederick County Board of Education—Graduation Requirements—Mental Health Education~~
Task Force to Study the Frederick County Public School System’s Elementary School Social-Emotional Learning Pilot Program

FOR the purpose of ~~requiring the Frederick County Board of Education to increase the amount of mental health education credits that a student must complete to be awarded a high school diploma by the same proportion as the State Board of Education’s increase to the required amount of health education credits under certain circumstances; requiring the Frederick County Board of Education to establish a certain mental health education curriculum in consultation with certain entities; and generally relating to mental health education requirements for graduation in public schools in Frederick County~~ establishing the Task Force to Study the Frederick County Public School System’s Elementary School Social-Emotional Learning Pilot Program; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations on certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations on a certain matter to the Frederick County Public School Superintendent and Board of Education; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study the Frederick County Public School System’s Elementary School Social-Emotional Learning Pilot Program.

~~BY adding to~~
~~Article—Education~~
~~Section 7-205.5~~
~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
~~(2018 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)~~

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

~~Article—Education~~

~~7-205.5.~~

~~(A) (1) IF THE STATE BOARD INCREASES THE AMOUNT OF HEALTH EDUCATION CREDITS THAT A STUDENT MUST EARN TO BE AWARDED A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA, THE FREDERICK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL INCREASE THE~~

~~AMOUNT OF MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION CREDITS THAT A STUDENT MUST COMPLETE TO BE AWARDED A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA BY THE SAME PROPORTION AS THE STATE BOARD'S INCREASE TO THE REQUIRED AMOUNT OF HEALTH EDUCATION CREDITS.~~

~~(B) THE FREDERICK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL ESTABLISH THE MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION CURRICULUM REQUIRED FOR A STUDENT TO BE AWARDED A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION IN CONSULTATION WITH:~~

~~(1) THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION IN THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH;~~

~~(2) THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS OF MARYLAND;~~

~~(3) THE MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND, WHICH MAY INCLUDE THE MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF FREDERICK COUNTY; AND~~

~~(4) ANY OTHER ENTITY THAT THE COUNTY BOARD DETERMINES IS APPROPRIATE.~~

(a) There is a Task Force to Study the Frederick County Public School System's Elementary School Social-Emotional Learning Pilot Program.

(b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

(1) a member of the House of Delegates who represents Frederick County, appointed by the Chair of the Frederick County Delegation;

(2) a member of the Senate of Maryland who represents Frederick County, appointed by the Chair of the Frederick County Delegation;

(3) a member of the Frederick County Board of Education, designated by the President of the Board;

(4) the supervisor of Frederick County Public School Psychological Services;

(5) a representative of the Frederick County Public School System's mental health services or behavioral interventions and supports programs, designated by the Superintendent of Frederick County Public Schools;

(6) a representative of the Mental Health Association of Frederick County, designated by the Chief Executive Officer of the Association; and

(7) a representative of the Maryland State School Health Council, designated by the President of the Council.

(c) The Task Force shall elect the chair of the Task Force by a majority vote at the first meeting.

(d) The Frederick County Board of Education shall provide staff for the Task Force.

(e) A member of the Task Force:

(1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

(2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(f) The Task Force shall:

(1) study the implementation of the Frederick County Public School System's elementary school social-emotional learning pilot program;

(2) evaluate the efficacy of the program;

(3) study the effectiveness of the system used to track the delivery of behavioral health and monitor wraparound services that also preserves student data privacy;

(4) study the effectiveness of building-based staff training in the program;

(5) identify what resources, including staffing and staffing structure, would be needed to expand programming to all elementary, middle, and high schools; and

(6) make recommendations on actions necessary to expand the program to middle schools and high schools.

(g) On or before December 31, 2019, the Task Force shall report its findings and recommendations on actions necessary to create a comprehensive social-emotional learning program in all Frederick County Public Schools to the Frederick County Public School Superintendent and Board of Education.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2019. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2020, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2019.