

**HOUSE BILL 434**

F1, J1, P1

9lr1558  
CF SB 307

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By: **Delegates K. Young, Pena–Melnyk, Hill, Jalisi, Johnson, Kipke, R. Lewis, and Shetty**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2019

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Pediatric Stroke – Awareness, Training, and Resource Materials**  
3 **(Laney Jaymes Fitzsimons Act)**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Department of Education, in collaboration with the  
5 Maryland Department of Health, to promote awareness in and provide training for  
6 certain individuals regarding pediatric stroke; requiring the Maryland Department  
7 of Health to provide to the State Department of Education certain information  
8 regarding pediatric stroke; and generally relating to awareness, training, and  
9 resource materials regarding pediatric stroke.

10 BY adding to  
11 Article – Education  
12 Section 7–446  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

15 Preamble

16 WHEREAS, Stroke occurs at a rate of 1 in 1,600 to 1 in 4,000 live births each year  
17 and 12 in 100,000 children per year, with stroke being the sixth–leading cause of death in  
18 children; and

19 WHEREAS, Between 50% and 85% of infants and children who have a pediatric  
20 stroke will have permanent neurological disabilities, including paralysis and seizures,  
21 speech and vision problems, and attention, learning, and behavioral difficulties, and may  
22 require ongoing physical therapy, educational interventions, and rehabilitative treatment;  
23 and

24 WHEREAS, The lifelong health challenges and treatments resulting from pediatric  
25 stroke place a significant financial and emotional toll on the child, the family, and our

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 society; and

2 WHEREAS, Since very little is known regarding the cause, treatment, and  
3 prevention of pediatric stroke, including risk factors, symptoms, and prevention efforts, and  
4 treatments for stroke are often different for children from treatments for adults; and

5 WHEREAS, Early diagnosis and treatment of pediatric stroke greatly improves the  
6 chance of recovery and preventing recurrence; and

7 WHEREAS, Only through continued medical research can effective treatment and  
8 prevention strategies for pediatric stroke be identified and developed; and

9 WHEREAS, Increased awareness of pediatric stroke and support for further  
10 research will lead to earlier diagnosis of and more effective treatment for pediatric stroke  
11 and greatly improve the chances of recovery and preventing recurrence; now, therefore,

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

14 **Article – Education**

15 **7-446.**

16 **(A) THE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE MARYLAND**  
17 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, SHALL PROMOTE AWARENESS IN AND PROVIDE**  
18 **TRAINING FOR DIRECTORS OF STUDENT SERVICES IN LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES**  
19 **REGARDING PEDIATRIC STROKE.**

20 **(B) THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHALL PROVIDE TO THE**  
21 **DEPARTMENT, FOR DISTRIBUTION TO LOCAL SCHOOL SUPERVISORS OF HEALTH,**  
22 **RESOURCE INFORMATION ON PEDIATRIC STROKE, INCLUDING INFORMATION ON**  
23 **THE WARNING SIGNS OF PEDIATRIC STROKE.**

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
25 October 1, 2019.