

# HOUSE BILL 844

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By: **Delegates Reilly, Anderton, Arikan, Buckel, Cassilly, Guyton, Hornberger, Kaiser, Luedtke, McComas, Rose, and Walker**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2019

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Schools – School Psychologists – Reports**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring each local school system in the State to submit a report on  
4 certain information regarding school psychologists to the State Board of Education,  
5 the Governor, and certain legislative committees on or before a certain date;  
6 requiring each local school system in the State to submit an interim report on school  
7 psychologists to the State Board of Education, the Governor, and certain legislative  
8 committees on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and  
9 generally relating to school psychologists in public schools.

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
11 That:

12 (a) Each local school system in the State shall submit a report on school  
13 psychologists in the local school system.

14 (b) The school psychologist report under subsection (a) of this section shall  
15 include:

16 (1) current ratio of school psychologists to students in each public school  
17 in the local school system;

18 (2) for schools with less than 750 students, strategies to increase the  
19 number of school psychologists in each school to no less than one school psychologist in each  
20 school on or before October 1, 2020, including any additional State or local funding needed  
21 by the local school system;

22 (3) for schools with 750 students or more, strategies to increase the ratio of  
23 school psychologists in each school system to no less than one school psychologist to every  
24 750 students on or before October 1, 2020, including any additional State or local funding

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 needed by the local school system;

2 (4) policies to decrease the wait times for students seeking to meet with a  
3 school psychologist; and

4 (5) strategies to increase the recruitment and retention of qualified school  
5 psychologists in the local school system.

6 (c) (1) On or before July 1, 2020, each local school system shall submit an  
7 interim report on school psychologists in the local school system to the State Board of  
8 Education, the Governor, and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government  
9 Article, the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the  
10 House Committee on Ways and Means.

11 (2) On or before December 1, 2020, each local school system shall submit  
12 the final report on school psychologists in the local school system required under subsection  
13 (a) of this section to the State Board of Education, the Governor, and, in accordance with §  
14 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental  
15 Affairs Committee and the House Committee on Ways and Means.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
17 1, 2019. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2021,  
18 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and  
19 of no further force and effect.