

## Chapter 578

**(Senate Bill 726)**

AN ACT concerning

**Education – School Physical Examinations – Physician Assistant**

FOR the purpose of altering the types of health care providers required to complete a physical examination of a student entering the Maryland Public School System for the first time to include a physician ~~assistant~~; assistant with a certain approval from the State Board of Physicians; clarifying that a physician must be licensed in order to complete a physical examination of a certain student; and generally relating to school physical examinations.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Education

Section 7–402

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

**Article – Education**

7–402.

(a) The Department of Education in consultation with the Maryland Department of Health shall adopt regulations requiring a physical examination for children entering the Maryland Public School System for the first time.

(b) The regulations shall require each child entering the Maryland Public School System for the first time to have a physical examination completed within:

- (1) The 9–month period before entering the public school system; or
- (2) The 6–month period after entering the public school system.

(c) The physical examination required under subsection (b) of this section shall be completed by:

- (1) A LICENSED physician; [or]

(2) A LICENSED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT WITH A DELEGATION AGREEMENT APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF PHYSICIANS; OR

**(3)** A certified nurse practitioner.

(d) (1) For each school year each public school shall report to the county board or county health department the number of children entering the public school system for the first time who have not had a physical examination because of:

(i) The lack of access to health care;

(ii) Insufficient financial resources; or

(iii) Any other reason, including a religious reason, as the public school deems appropriate.

(2) The county board or county health department shall report the information obtained under paragraph (1) of this subsection to the Maryland Department of Health.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2020.

**Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 8, 2020.**