HOUSE BILL 615


Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2020
Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Education – School Construction – Pedestrian Safety Plans

FOR the purpose of requiring a county board of education seeking State funds for the construction of a new school, or the renovation of or an addition to an existing school that would increase the capacity by more than a certain number of students, to submit a pedestrian safety plan to the Interagency Commission on School Construction; providing for the contents of a pedestrian safety plan; authorizing the Interagency Commission to adopt regulations to implement this Act; and generally relating to pedestrian safety plans for schools.

BY adding to

Article – Education
Section 5–324
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

5–324.

(A) A COUNTY BOARD SEEKING STATE FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SCHOOL, OR THE RENOVATION OF OR AN ADDITION TO AN EXISTING SCHOOL THAT WOULD INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF THE SCHOOL BY MORE THAN 100 STUDENTS, SHALL SUBMIT A PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PLAN TO THE INTERAGENCY

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
COMMISSION AS PART OF THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS.

(B) A PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PLAN SHALL:

(1) IDENTIFY EXISTING AND POTENTIAL SAFE ROUTES FOR STUDENTS TO WALK OR BIKE TO THE SCHOOL;

(2) EVALUATE THE INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING SIDEWALK INFRASTRUCTURE, ALONG EXISTING AND POTENTIAL PEDESTRIAN OR CYCLIST ROUTES TO THE SCHOOL TO DETERMINE WHETHER INCREASED CAPACITY IS NECESSARY;

(3) ANALYZE EXISTING AND POTENTIAL SCHOOL ZONES, INCLUDING THE NEED FOR EXPANDING SCHOOL ZONES ON STATE AND COUNTY ROADS; AND

(4) INCLUDE DOCUMENTATION OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND INPUT RELATED TO THE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PLAN INCLUDING MINUTES FROM A PUBLIC HEARING AND WRITTEN COMMENTS.

(C) THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.

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