

# HOUSE BILL 1235

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By: **Delegates Ebersole, Cullison, McIntosh, and Wilkins**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2020

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Center for School Safety – School Employee Injury Reporting and**  
3 **Study**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Center for School Safety to conduct a study on  
5 injuries to teachers, paraprofessionals, and staff members that occur in each local  
6 school system; requiring the Center to develop a certain guidance document and data  
7 collection template; requiring each public school to provide the designated school  
8 safety coordinator for the local school system with a report documenting an injury to  
9 a teacher, paraprofessional, or staff member; requiring each school safety  
10 coordinator to submit the reports to the Center at certain times; requiring the Center  
11 to study and develop recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the  
12 State Department of Education to conduct outreach to publicize the reporting system  
13 and encourage certain individuals to file reports related to injuries; authorizing  
14 certain State and local collective bargaining agents to conduct certain outreach;  
15 requiring the Center, on or before a certain date each year, to report its findings and  
16 recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly; and generally relating  
17 to the safety of public school employees.

18 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
19 Article – Education  
20 Section 7–1501(d)  
21 Annotated Code of Maryland  
22 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

23 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
24 Article – Education  
25 Section 7–1502(g)(20) and (21)  
26 Annotated Code of Maryland  
27 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

28 BY adding to

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Article – Education  
2 Section 7–1502(g)(22) and 7–1513  
3 Annotated Code of Maryland  
4 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

7 **Article – Education**

8 7–1501.

9 (d) “Center” means the Maryland Center for School Safety.

10 7–1502.

11 (g) The Center shall perform the following functions and duties:

12 (20) Review and comment on school emergency plans developed under §  
13 7–1510 of this subtitle; [and]

14 (21) Report to the General Assembly and the Governor on life–threatening  
15 incidents as required under § 7–1510 of this subtitle; AND

16 **(22) REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE GOVERNOR ON**  
17 **INJURIES TO TEACHERS, PARAPROFESSIONALS, AND STAFF MEMBERS AS REQUIRED**  
18 **UNDER § 7–1513 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

19 **7–1513.**

20 **(A) THE CENTER SHALL CONDUCT A STUDY ON INJURIES TO TEACHERS,**  
21 **PARAPROFESSIONALS, AND STAFF MEMBERS THAT OCCUR IN EACH LOCAL SCHOOL**  
22 **SYSTEM.**

23 **(B) THE CENTER SHALL DEVELOP A GUIDANCE DOCUMENT AND DATA**  
24 **COLLECTION TEMPLATE FOR A LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM TO USE TO COLLECT AND**  
25 **REPORT DATA RELATED TO INJURIES TO TEACHERS, PARAPROFESSIONALS, AND**  
26 **STAFF MEMBERS.**

27 **(C) (1) EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL SHALL PROVIDE THE DESIGNATED SCHOOL**  
28 **SAFETY COORDINATOR FOR THE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM WITH A REPORT**  
29 **DOCUMENTING AN INJURY TO A TEACHER, PARAPROFESSIONAL, OR STAFF MEMBER.**

30 **(2) EVERY 3 MONTHS THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR, EACH**  
31 **SCHOOL SAFETY COORDINATOR SHALL SUBMIT THE REPORTS TO THE CENTER.**

1           **(D) IN CONDUCTING THE STUDY, THE CENTER SHALL:**

2                   **(1) ANALYZE THE INJURY REPORTS THAT TEACHERS,**  
3 **PARAPROFESSIONALS, AND STAFF MEMBERS SUBMIT TO THE SCHOOL SAFETY**  
4 **COORDINATORS FOR THE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS;**

5                   **(2) DEVELOP EVALUATION METRICS TO IDENTIFY PATTERNS WITHIN**  
6 **THE DATA;**

7                   **(3) ASSESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADAPTING SCHOOL POLICIES TO**  
8 **PREVENT INJURIES TO TEACHERS, PARAPROFESSIONALS, AND STAFF MEMBERS;**  
9 **AND**

10                  **(4) DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING SCHOOL SAFETY.**

11           **(E) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONDUCT OUTREACH TO PUBLICIZE THE**  
12 **REPORTING SYSTEM AND ENCOURAGE TEACHERS, PARAPROFESSIONALS, AND**  
13 **STAFF MEMBERS TO FILE REPORTS RELATED TO INJURIES.**

14           **(F) STATE AND LOCAL COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGENTS FOR PUBLIC**  
15 **SCHOOL EMPLOYEES MAY CONDUCT OUTREACH TO PUBLICIZE THE REPORTING**  
16 **SYSTEM AND ENCOURAGE TEACHERS, PARAPROFESSIONALS, AND STAFF MEMBERS**  
17 **TO FILE REPORTS RELATED TO INJURIES.**

18           **(G) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 EACH YEAR, BEGINNING IN 2021, THE**  
19 **CENTER SHALL REPORT ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO**  
20 **INJURIES TO TEACHERS, PARAPROFESSIONALS, AND STAFF MEMBERS FOR THE**  
21 **IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING SCHOOL YEAR TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE**  
22 **WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

23           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
24 1, 2020.