

# HOUSE BILL 472

F1  
HB 1536/20 – W&M

2lr0691  
CF 2lr2781

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By: **Delegates J. Lewis, Bartlett, Boyce, Cardin, Cullison, Foley, Fraser–Hidalgo, Henson, Hill, Howell, Jalisi, R. Jones, Kaiser, Kelly, Landis, Lehman, Lierman, Love, Luedtke, McComas, McIntosh, Proctor, Qi, Reznik, Terrasa, Valentino–Smith, and Williams**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2022

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Primary and Secondary Education – Title IX – Policies and Procedures**  
3 **(Hear Our Voices Act of 2022)**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Board of Education to develop policies and  
5 procedures for reporting, administering, investigating, and resolving complaints  
6 related to incidents of sexual misconduct and violations of a certain federal law;  
7 authorizing a person to bring a civil action against a local system that fails to comply  
8 with certain policies and procedures and to recover damages, reasonable costs, and  
9 attorney’s fees; and generally relating to sexual misconduct complaints and Title IX  
10 compliance.

11 BY adding to  
12 Article – Education  
13 Section 7–450  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Education**

19 **7–450.**

20 **(A) ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 2023, THE STATE BOARD, AFTER**  
21 **CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS, SHALL DEVELOP POLICIES AND**  
22 **PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING, ADMINISTERING, INVESTIGATING, AND RESOLVING**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 COMPLAINTS RELATED TO INCIDENTS OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AND TITLE IX OF  
2 THE EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1972.

3 (B) THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (A)  
4 OF THIS SECTION SHALL REQUIRE:

5 (1) THE DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP A DATABASE FOR  
6 ADMINISTRATORS TO UPLOAD SEXUAL MISCONDUCT COMPLAINTS; AND

7 (2) A PUBLIC SCHOOL TO:

8 (I) NOTIFY THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF A STUDENT WHO  
9 FILES A COMPLAINT RELATED TO SEXUAL MISCONDUCT;

10 (II) COLLECT DATA ON SEXUAL MISCONDUCT COMPLAINTS AND  
11 REPORT THE DATA TO THE DEPARTMENT EACH YEAR; AND

12 (III) INFORM STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF OF:

13 1. WHO SERVES AS THE TITLE IX COORDINATOR FOR  
14 THE SCHOOL; AND

15 2. HOW TO FILE A SEXUAL MISCONDUCT COMPLAINT.

16 (C) A PERSON MAY:

17 (1) BRING A CIVIL ACTION AGAINST A LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM THAT  
18 FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES DEVELOPED UNDER THIS  
19 SECTION; AND

20 (2) RECOVER DAMAGES, REASONABLE COSTS, AND ATTORNEY'S  
21 FEES.

22 (D) THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS  
23 SECTION.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
25 1, 2022.