

HOUSE BILL 515

F1, F2

2lr1882
CF SB 951

By: **Delegates Feldmark, Boyce, Charkoudian, Davis, Ebersole, Foley, Guyton, Hill, Kaiser, Lehman, Lierman, Lopez, Love, Ruth, Solomon, Terrasa, and P. Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2022

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 2, 2022

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Student Athletes – Uniform Modifications for Modesty**
3 **(Inclusive Athletic Attire Act)**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring county boards of education, the Maryland Public Secondary
5 Schools Athletic Association, governing bodies of public institutions of higher
6 education, and boards of community college trustees to allow student athletes to
7 modify an athletic or team uniform to make the attire more modest to conform to the
8 requirements or preferences of the student athlete’s religion or culture or the student
9 athlete’s own preferences for modesty; and generally relating to modifying athletic
10 or team uniforms of student athletes.

11 BY adding to
12 Article – Education
13 Section 7–129, 15–134, and 16–110
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 **7–129.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "STUDENT ATHLETE" MEANS A STUDENT ENROLLED
2 IN A HIGH SCHOOL WHO PARTICIPATES IN A HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC PROGRAM
3 THAT IS A MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS ATHLETIC
4 ASSOCIATION.

5 (B) (1) A COUNTY BOARD AND THE MARYLAND PUBLIC SECONDARY
6 SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION SHALL ALLOW A STUDENT ATHLETE TO MODIFY
7 THE ATHLETIC OR TEAM UNIFORM OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE IN A MANNER THAT
8 MAKES THE STUDENT ATHLETE'S ATTIRE MORE MODEST TO CONFORM TO ~~THE~~:

9 (I) THE REQUIREMENTS OR PREFERENCES OF THE STUDENT
10 ATHLETE'S RELIGION OR CULTURE; OR

11 (II) THE STUDENT ATHLETE'S OWN PREFERENCES FOR
12 MODESTY.

13 (2) A STUDENT ATHLETE MAY NOT BE REQUIRED TO RECEIVE
14 APPROVAL FROM A COACH, A TEACHER, A SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR, OR THE
15 COUNTY BOARD BEFORE MAKING THE UNIFORM MODIFICATION.

16 (C) (1) A MODIFICATION TO AN ATHLETIC OR TEAM UNIFORM MAY
17 INCLUDE THE WEARING OF:

18 (I) A HEAD COVERING WORN FOR RELIGIOUS REASONS,
19 INCLUDING A MUSLIM HIJAB, JEWISH KIPPAH, OR SIKH DASTAR;

20 (II) AN UNDERSHIRT; OR

21 (III) LEGGINGS.

22 (2) A MODIFICATION TO AN ATHLETIC OR TEAM UNIFORM MAY NOT:

23 (I) INTERFERE WITH THE MOVEMENT OF THE STUDENT
24 ATHLETE; OR

25 (II) POSE A SAFETY HAZARD TO THE STUDENT ATHLETE, OTHER
26 STUDENT ATHLETES, OR OTHERS.

27 (3) A STUDENT ATHLETE MAY MODIFY THE UNIFORM HEADGEAR IF
28 THE MODIFIED HEADGEAR:

29 (I) IS BLACK, WHITE, THE PREDOMINANT COLOR OF THE
30 UNIFORM, OR THE SAME COLOR AS THAT WORN BY ALL PLAYERS ON THE TEAM;

1 (II) DOES NOT COVER ANY PART OF THE FACE, UNLESS
2 REQUIRED FOR THE SAFETY OF THE WEARER;

3 (III) IS NOT DANGEROUS TO THE STUDENT ATHLETE, OTHER
4 STUDENT ATHLETES, OR OTHERS;

5 (IV) DOES NOT HAVE OPENING OR CLOSING ELEMENTS AROUND
6 THE FACE OR NECK; AND

7 (V) DOES NOT HAVE PARTS PROTRUDING FROM ITS SURFACE.

8 (D) (1) A STUDENT ATHLETE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL COSTS
9 ASSOCIATED WITH THE MODIFICATION OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE'S ATHLETIC OR
10 TEAM UNIFORM UNDER THIS SECTION.

11 (2) THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT A
12 PUBLIC SCHOOL FROM PROVIDING THE UNIFORM MODIFICATION TO THE STUDENT.

13 15-134.

14 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "STUDENT ATHLETE" MEANS A STUDENT ENROLLED
15 AT A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION WHO PARTICIPATES IN AN
16 INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC PROGRAM AT THE INSTITUTION.

17 (B) (1) THE GOVERNING BODY OF A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
18 EDUCATION SHALL ALLOW A STUDENT ATHLETE TO MODIFY THE ATHLETIC OR TEAM
19 UNIFORM OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE IN A MANNER THAT MAKES THE STUDENT
20 ATHLETE'S ATTIRE MORE MODEST TO CONFORM TO ~~THE~~:

21 (I) THE REQUIREMENTS OR PREFERENCES OF THE STUDENT
22 ATHLETE'S RELIGION OR CULTURE; OR

23 (II) THE STUDENT ATHLETE'S OWN PREFERENCES FOR
24 MODESTY.

25 (2) A STUDENT ATHLETE MAY NOT BE REQUIRED TO RECEIVE
26 APPROVAL FROM A COACH, AN ADMINISTRATOR, OR THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
27 PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION BEFORE MAKING THE UNIFORM
28 MODIFICATION.

29 (C) (1) A MODIFICATION TO AN ATHLETIC OR TEAM UNIFORM MAY
30 INCLUDE THE WEARING OF:

1 (I) A HEAD COVERING WORN FOR RELIGIOUS REASONS,
2 INCLUDING A MUSLIM HIJAB, JEWISH KIPPAH, OR SIKH DASTAR;

3 (II) AN UNDERSHIRT; OR

4 (III) LEGGINGS.

5 (2) A MODIFICATION TO AN ATHLETIC OR TEAM UNIFORM MAY NOT:

6 (I) INTERFERE WITH THE MOVEMENT OF THE STUDENT
7 ATHLETE; OR

8 (II) POSE A SAFETY HAZARD TO THE STUDENT ATHLETE, OTHER
9 STUDENT ATHLETES, OR OTHERS.

10 (3) A STUDENT ATHLETE MAY MODIFY THE UNIFORM HEADGEAR IF
11 THE MODIFIED HEADGEAR:

12 (I) IS BLACK, WHITE, THE PREDOMINANT COLOR OF THE
13 UNIFORM, OR THE SAME COLOR AS THAT WORN BY ALL PLAYERS ON THE TEAM;

14 (II) DOES NOT COVER ANY PART OF THE FACE, UNLESS
15 REQUIRED FOR THE SAFETY OF THE WEARER;

16 (III) IS NOT DANGEROUS TO THE STUDENT ATHLETE, OTHER
17 STUDENT ATHLETES, OR OTHERS;

18 (IV) DOES NOT HAVE OPENING OR CLOSING ELEMENTS AROUND
19 THE FACE OR NECK; AND

20 (V) DOES NOT HAVE PARTS PROTRUDING FROM ITS SURFACE.

21 (D) (1) A STUDENT ATHLETE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL COSTS
22 ASSOCIATED WITH THE MODIFICATION OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE'S ATHLETIC OR
23 TEAM UNIFORM UNDER THIS SECTION.

24 (2) THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT A
25 PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FROM PROVIDING THE UNIFORM
26 MODIFICATION TO THE STUDENT.

27 16-110.

28 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "STUDENT ATHLETE" MEANS A STUDENT ENROLLED
29 AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE WHO PARTICIPATES IN AN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC
30 PROGRAM AT THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

1 (B) (1) THE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEES AT A
2 COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL ALLOW A STUDENT ATHLETE TO MODIFY THE
3 ATHLETIC OR TEAM UNIFORM OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE IN A MANNER THAT MAKES
4 THE STUDENT ATHLETE'S ATTIRE MORE MODEST TO CONFORM TO ~~THE~~:

5 (I) THE REQUIREMENTS OR PREFERENCES OF THE STUDENT
6 ATHLETE'S RELIGION OR CULTURE; OR

7 (II) THE STUDENT ATHLETE'S OWN PREFERENCES FOR
8 MODESTY.

9 (2) A STUDENT ATHLETE MAY NOT BE REQUIRED TO RECEIVE
10 APPROVAL FROM A COACH, AN ADMINISTRATOR, OR THE BOARD OF COMMUNITY
11 COLLEGE TRUSTEES BEFORE MAKING THE UNIFORM MODIFICATION.

12 (C) (1) A MODIFICATION TO AN ATHLETIC OR TEAM UNIFORM MAY
13 INCLUDE THE WEARING OF:

14 (I) A HEAD COVERING WORN FOR RELIGIOUS REASONS,
15 INCLUDING A MUSLIM HIJAB, JEWISH KIPPAH, OR SIKH DASTAR;

16 (II) AN UNDERSHIRT; OR

17 (III) LEGGINGS.

18 (2) A MODIFICATION TO AN ATHLETIC OR TEAM UNIFORM MAY NOT:

19 (I) INTERFERE WITH THE MOVEMENT OF THE STUDENT
20 ATHLETE; OR

21 (II) POSE A SAFETY HAZARD TO THE STUDENT ATHLETE, OTHER
22 STUDENT ATHLETES, OR OTHERS.

23 (3) A STUDENT ATHLETE MAY MODIFY THE UNIFORM HEADGEAR IF
24 THE MODIFIED HEADGEAR:

25 (I) IS BLACK, WHITE, THE PREDOMINANT COLOR OF THE
26 UNIFORM, OR THE SAME COLOR AS THAT WORN BY ALL PLAYERS ON THE TEAM;

27 (II) DOES NOT COVER ANY PART OF THE FACE, UNLESS
28 REQUIRED FOR THE SAFETY OF THE WEARER;

1 (III) IS NOT DANGEROUS TO THE STUDENT ATHLETE, OTHER
2 STUDENT ATHLETES, OR OTHERS;

3 (IV) DOES NOT HAVE OPENING OR CLOSING ELEMENTS AROUND
4 THE FACE OR NECK; AND

5 (V) DOES NOT HAVE PARTS PROTRUDING FROM ITS SURFACE.

6 (D) (1) A STUDENT ATHLETE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL COSTS
7 ASSOCIATED WITH THE MODIFICATION OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE’S ATHLETIC OR
8 TEAM UNIFORM UNDER THIS SECTION.

9 (2) THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT A
10 COMMUNITY COLLEGE FROM PROVIDING THE UNIFORM MODIFICATION TO THE
11 STUDENT.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
13 1, 2022.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.