CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Public Schools – Standardized Behavioral Health Screenings Questionnaire for Students – Development and Implementation

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports to develop, in consultation with certain stakeholders, guidelines for developing a standardized behavioral health screening questionnaire to identify students with behavioral health services needs; requiring each behavioral health services coordinator to develop and implement a standardized behavioral health screening questionnaire based on the guidelines developed by the Consortium; and generally relating to the development of a standardized behavioral health screening questionnaire for public school students.

4 BY renumbering

5 Article – Education

6 Section 7–447.1(i) through (o), respectively

7 to be Section 7–447.1(j) through (p), respectively

8 Annotated Code of Maryland

9 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

11 Article – Education

12 Section 7–447(b) and 7–447.1(a)(1) and (4)

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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.
BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
  Article – Education
  Section 7–447(c)
  Annotated Code of Maryland
  (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

BY adding to
  Article – Education
  Section 7–447.1(i)
  Annotated Code of Maryland
  (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That Section(s) 7–447.1(i) through (o), respectively, of Article – Education of the Annotated
Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 7–447.1(j) through (p), respectively.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read
as follows:

Article – Education

7–447.

(b) Each local school system shall appoint a behavioral health services
coordinator.

(c) (1) In addition to the requirements under Subtitle 15 of this title, each
behavioral health services coordinator shall:

[(1)] (I) Coordinate existing behavioral health services and referral
procedures for behavioral health services within the local school system, including through
a coordinated community supports partnership;

[(2)] (II) Working in collaboration with the local health department, the
local department of social services, and other local entities that provide behavioral health
services, including a community supports partnership, ensure that a student who is
referred for behavioral health services obtains the necessary services in a timely manner;

[(3)] (III) Maximize external funding for behavioral health and
wraparound services;

[(4)] (IV) Have at a minimum a master’s degree and behavioral health
training experience in schools;
provide the required behavioral health training under § 6–122 of this article; and

Develop and implement a standardized screening questionnaires to identify students with behavioral health services needs using an evidence–based measurement approach based on the guidelines established under § 7–447.1 of this subtitle.

(2) The standardized screening questionnaires required under paragraph (1)(vi) of this subsection shall be given to the parent or guardian of each student when the student enrolls for school and every year thereafter while the student is enrolled in the local school system.

(3) The behavioral health services coordinator shall use the questionnaires to complete the coordinator’s duties under this section.

(4) The questionnaires, with the permission of a student or a student’s parent, shall be shared with:

(i) school mental health staff, including school counselors, school psychologists, school nurses, and school social workers; and

(ii) a coordinated community supports partnership under § 7–447.1 of this subtitle that serves and supports the student.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(4) “Consortium” means the Maryland Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports established under subsection (b) of this section.

(i) (1) The consortium shall develop guidelines for developing a standardized screening questionnaires to identify students with behavioral health services needs.

(2) The guidelines shall be:

(i) developed in consultation with the following stakeholders selected by the Consortium:
ONE MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND OPTOMETRIC ASSOCIATION;
ONE MEMBER OF THE STATE TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY ADVISORY BOARD;
ONE MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND EDUCATION COALITION;
ONE MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL HEALTH NURSES;
ONE MEMBER OF THE DIVISION OF EARLY INTERVENTION AND SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES IN THE DEPARTMENT;
ONE MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND ACADEMY OF AUDIOLOGY;
ONE MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF NONPUBLIC SPECIAL EDUCATION FACILITIES;
ONE EXPERT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD TRAUMA AND DEVELOPMENT; AND
ONE EXPERT ON DATA PROTECTION;
(II) DEVELOPED USING AN EVIDENCE–BASED MEASUREMENT APPROACH; AND
(III) UPDATED EVERY 5 YEARS.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2022.