

HOUSE BILL 375

F1, F2

3lr1726

By: **Delegate Attar**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2023

Assigned to: Appropriations and Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Coaches – Mental Health First Aid Training**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Department of Education, in collaboration with the
4 Maryland Department of Health, each county board of education, and the Maryland
5 Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association, to develop guidelines for public
6 schools to train coaches in providing mental health first aid; requiring each public
7 school in the State that offers a mainstream athletic program to provide mental
8 health first aid training to coaches; requiring the Maryland Higher Education
9 Commission, in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Health, to develop
10 guidelines for public institutions of higher education to train coaches in providing
11 mental health first aid; requiring a public institution of higher education that offers
12 an athletic program to provide mental health first aid training to coaches; and
13 generally relating to coaches and mental health first aid training.

14 BY adding to
15 Article – Education
16 Section 7–452 and 15–130.1
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2022 Replacement Volume)

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

21 **Article – Education**

22 **7–452.**

23 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
24 **INDICATED.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(2) “MAINSTREAM ATHLETIC PROGRAM” MEANS AN INTRAMURAL OR**
2 **INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ACTIVITY THAT IS DEVELOPED AND OFFERED TO**
3 **STUDENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE BOARD.**

4 **(3) “MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID” MEANS:**

5 **(I) RECOGNIZING AND RESPONDING TO INDICATORS OF**
6 **MENTAL ILLNESS AND BEHAVIORAL DISTRESS, INCLUDING DEPRESSION, TRAUMA,**
7 **VIOLENCE, YOUTH SUICIDE, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE; AND**

8 **(II) IDENTIFYING PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES TO HELP**
9 **STUDENTS IN CRISIS.**

10 **(B) THE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE MARYLAND**
11 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EACH COUNTY BOARD, AND THE MARYLAND PUBLIC**
12 **SECONDARY SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, SHALL DEVELOP GUIDELINES FOR**
13 **PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO TRAIN COACHES IN PROVIDING MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TO**
14 **STUDENTS.**

15 **(C) EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE STATE THAT OFFERS A MAINSTREAM**
16 **ATHLETIC PROGRAM SHALL PROVIDE MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING TO**
17 **EACH COACH PARTICIPATING IN THE MAINSTREAM ATHLETIC PROGRAM.**

18 **15-130.1.**

19 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
20 **INDICATED.**

21 **(2) “ATHLETIC PROGRAM” MEANS ANY INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC**
22 **PROGRAM AT A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE.**

23 **(3) “MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID” MEANS:**

24 **(I) RECOGNIZING AND RESPONDING TO INDICATORS OF**
25 **MENTAL ILLNESS AND BEHAVIORAL DISTRESS, INCLUDING DEPRESSION, TRAUMA,**
26 **VIOLENCE, YOUTH SUICIDE, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE; AND**

27 **(II) IDENTIFYING PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES TO HELP**
28 **STUDENTS IN CRISIS.**

29 **(B) THE COMMISSION, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE MARYLAND**
30 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, SHALL DEVELOP GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC**
31 **INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO TRAIN COACHES IN PROVIDING MENTAL**

1 HEALTH FIRST AID TO STUDENTS.

2 (C) A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT OFFERS AN
3 ATHLETIC PROGRAM SHALL PROVIDE MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING TO
4 EACH COACH PARTICIPATING IN THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
6 1, 2023.