F1 3lr2864

By: Delegates Toles, Amprey, Bartlett, Boafo, Charles, Crutchfield, Fennell, Harrison, Ivey, Jackson, Lehman, J. Long, Munoz, Pasteur, Pena-Melnyk, Phillips, Simpson, Taylor, Turner, Valderrama, Wells, Wilkins, and Williams Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2023

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 .	AN	ACT	concerning
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2

Public Schools - Water Safety and Swimming Course - Established

FOR the purpose of requiring the State Department of Education to develop curriculum content standards for a course on water safety and swimming for public school students in certain grades; requiring county boards of education to implement the water safety and swimming course for students in certain grades in certain schools in the county; and generally relating to a course on water safety and swimming in public middle and high schools.

- 9 BY adding to
- 10 Article Education
- 11 Section 7–452
- 12 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 13 (2022 Replacement Volume)
- 14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 Article - Education

- 17 **7–452.**
- 18 (A) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2024, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP CURRICULUM CONTENT STANDARDS FOR A COURSE ON WATER SAFETY AND
- 20 SWIMMING FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS IN GRADES 8 THROUGH 12.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

21 (B) (1) BEGINNING IN THE 2025–2026 SCHOOL YEAR, EACH COUNTY 22 BOARD SHALL IMPLEMENT A COURSE ON WATER SAFETY AND SWIMMING BASED ON



- 1 THE CURRICULUM CONTENT STANDARDS DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER
- 2 SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION IN EACH PUBLIC MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL FOR
- 3 STUDENTS IN GRADES 8 THROUGH 12.
- 4 (2) A COUNTY BOARD SHALL AWARD AN ELECTIVE PHYSICAL 5 EDUCATION CREDIT TO STUDENTS FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE COURSE.
- 6 (C) A PUBLIC MIDDLE OR HIGH SCHOOL MAY PARTNER WITH A LOCAL 7 PARKS AND RECREATION AGENCY TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE NECESSARY WATER 8 AND SWIMMING FACILITIES FOR THE COURSE OFFERED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF 9 THIS SECTION.
- 10 **(D)** THE DEPARTMENT MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS 11 SECTION.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2023.