HOUSE BILL 1202

By: Delegates Miller, Szefiga, Adams, Arentz, Fisher, Hartman, McComas, M. Morgan, T. Morgan, Nawrocki, Pippy, and Tomlinson

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2023
Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Public Schools – Curriculum and Instructional Materials

FOR the purpose of requiring the posting of curriculum and instructional materials used at public schools on the public school’s website; establishing requirements for the production and inspection of certain instructional materials referenced in certain curriculum; and generally relating to curriculum and instructional materials in public schools.

BY adding to
Article – Education
Section 4–142 and 7–112.2
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume)

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

Article – Education

4–142.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS” MEANS TOOLS USED FOR EDUCATIONAL INSTRUCTION, INCLUDING:

(1) TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER READING MATERIALS;
(2) VIDEOS;
(3) DIGITAL MATERIALS; AND

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
(4) Websites and other online applications.

(B) Each county board shall:

(1) Ensure that each public school in the county complies with the requirements of § 7–112.2 of this article; and

(2) Adopt reasonable rules that govern the timely production and inspection of instructional materials that are not publicly available on the Internet.

7–112.2.

(A) This section does not apply to a student presentation.

(B) In this section, “instructional materials” means tools used for educational instruction, including:

(1) Textbooks and other reading materials;

(2) Videos;

(3) Digital materials; and

(4) Websites and other online applications.

(C) (1) Each public school shall prominently display the following information on the school’s website:

   (I) All curriculum that was used at the school during the immediately preceding school year;

   (II) Each grade— or school—wide presentation, assembly, lecture, or other activity or event facilitated by the school during instructional hours;

   (III) Information on how the school documents, reviews, and approves curriculum; and

   (IV) The rules established by the county board in accordance with § 4–142 of this article for the production and inspection of instructional materials that are not publicly available
ON THE INTERNET.

(2) The information in paragraph (1)(i) through (iii) of this subsection shall be organized, at a minimum, by subject area and grade level.

(3) A public school shall:

   (i) Post the information in paragraph (1)(i) and (ii) of this subsection on the school’s website for at least 60 days after the end of the school year; and

   (ii) Retain the information in paragraph (1)(i) and (ii) of this subsection for 2 years after posting the information on the website.

(D) (1) The curriculum required to be posted in accordance with this section shall, at a minimum:

   (i) Identify instructional materials by the:

       1. Title and author; or

       2. Organization or website associated with the materials or activity;

   (ii) Include a brief description of the instructional materials; and

   (iii) If publicly available on the internet, include:

       1. A link to the instructional materials; or

       2. Information on how to request a copy of the instructional materials.

   (2) If an individual component of instructional materials used throughout the curriculum is produced as a single volume, that volume shall be listed only once in the curriculum.

(E) The Department, in consultation with county boards of education, may adopt regulations to implement this section.
SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2023.