

# SENATE BILL 170

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(PRE-FILED)

4lr0606  
CF 4lr0605

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By: **Senator Gallion**

Requested: September 7, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **County Boards of Education – Hearing Notices and Bid Advertisements –**  
3 **Electronic Posting**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing county boards of education to post certain hearing notices  
5 and bid advertisements on the websites of certain local school systems; updating the  
6 reference to the State’s centralized procurement platform on which county boards  
7 may advertise for certain bids; and generally relating to county boards of education  
8 and electronic posting.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article – Education  
11 Section 4–116(b) and 5–112(b)(1)  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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 4–116.

18 (b) (1) If a county board gives preliminary approval of a school site, the county  
19 board shall hold a public hearing if:

20 (i) It considers it desirable;

21 (ii) 100 or more adult residents of the county petition in writing for  
22 a hearing; or

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (iii) The county commissioners or county council asks for a hearing.

2 (2) The hearing shall be held on at least 10 days' notice, published at least  
3 once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county **OR POSTED ELECTRONICALLY**  
4 **ON THE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM WEBSITE**, to give all interested persons an opportunity  
5 to present their views.

6 (3) Any petition by residents of the county shall be filed at the office of the  
7 county board within 15 days after the board gives preliminary approval of the site.

8 (4) If a hearing is held, minutes shall be kept and, after deliberation, the  
9 county board shall send the minutes of the hearing and its recommendation to the State  
10 Superintendent for use in making a decision on his approval of the site.

11 (5) A request for site approval may not be made to the State  
12 Superintendent by a county board until 15 days pass after its action recommending the site  
13 or, if a hearing is held, until after the hearing, whichever occurs last.

14 5-112.

15 (b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, if the cost of any  
16 school building, improvement, supplies, or equipment is more than \$25,000, the county  
17 board, at least 2 weeks before bids are to be filed, shall advertise for bids in a medium  
18 accessible to the general public, which includes:

19 (i) A newspaper of general circulation in the region;

20 (ii) [The Maryland Contract Weekly or comparable State  
21 publication] **EMARYLAND MARKETPLACE**; or

22 (iii) An electronic posting on [a bid board and physical posting on]  
23 the local school system [bid board] **WEBSITE**.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
25 1, 2024.