

HOUSE BILL 672

F5, J1

5lr2175
CF SB 486

By: ~~Delegates Cullison and Palakovich Carr~~, Palakovich Carr, Pena-Melnyk, Alston, Bagnall, Bhandari, Guzzone, Hill, S. Johnson, Kaiser, Kerr, Lopez, Martinez, Rosenberg, Taveras, White Holland, Woods, and Woorman

Introduced and read first time: January 24, 2025

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations and Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 27, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **School Health and Wellness Personnel Assessment and Maryland Council on**
3 **Advancement of School-Based Health Centers**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Department of Education and the Maryland
5 Department of Health jointly to conduct an assessment of school health and wellness
6 personnel each year; altering the membership of the Maryland Council on
7 Advancement of School-Based Health Centers; and generally relating to school
8 health and wellness personnel and the Maryland Council on Advancement of
9 School-Based Health Centers.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article – Health – General
12 Section 19–22A–05(a)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – Health – General
17 Section 19–22A–06(a)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

20 BY adding to

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.



1 Article – Health – General

2 Section 24–2501 and 24–2502 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 25. School
3 Health and Wellness Personnel Assessment”

4 Annotated Code of Maryland

5 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

6 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

7 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

8 **Article – Health – General**

9 19–22A–05.

10 (a) There is a Maryland Council on Advancement of School–Based Health Centers
11 in the Department.

12 19–22A–06.

13 (a) The Council consists of the following **[15] 16** voting members and 6 ex officio
14 members:

15 (1) One member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
16 the Senate, as an ex officio member;

17 (2) One member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the
18 House, as an ex officio member;

19 (3) The Secretary of Health, or a designee of the Secretary, as an ex officio
20 member;

21 (4) The State Superintendent of Schools as an ex officio member;

22 (5) The Executive Director of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange as an
23 ex officio member;

24 (6) The Chairman of the Commission, or a designee of the Chairman, as an
25 ex officio member; and

26 (7) The following **[15] 16** members, appointed by the Governor:

27 (i) The President of the Maryland Assembly on School–Based
28 Health Care, or a designee of the President;

29 (ii) Three representatives of school–based health centers, nominated
30 by the Maryland Assembly on School–Based Health Care:

31 1. From a diverse array of sponsoring organizations; and

1 2. For at least one of the representatives, from a nursing
2 background;

3 (iii) One representative of the Public Schools Superintendents
4 Association of Maryland;

5 (iv) One representative of the Maryland Association of Boards of
6 Education;

7 (v) One elementary school principal of a school that has a
8 school-based health center;

9 (vi) One secondary school principal of a school that has a
10 school-based health center;

11 (vii) One representative of the Maryland Hospital Association;

12 (viii) One representative of the Maryland Association of County
13 Health Officers;

14 (ix) One representative of a federally qualified health center,
15 nominated by the Mid-Atlantic Association of Community Health Centers;

16 (x) One representative of a managed care organization;

17 (xi) One representative of a commercial health insurance carrier;

18 (xii) One pediatrician, nominated by the Maryland Chapter of the
19 American Academy of Pediatrics; [and]

20 (xiii) One parent or guardian of a student who utilizes services at a
21 school-based health center; AND

22 (XIV) ONE SCHOOL NURSE, NOMINATED BY THE MARYLAND
23 ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL HEALTH NURSES.

24 **SUBTITLE 25. SCHOOL HEALTH AND WELLNESS PERSONNEL ASSESSMENT.**

25 **24-2501.**

26 **IN THIS SUBTITLE, “SCHOOL HEALTH AND WELLNESS PERSONNEL” INCLUDES:**

27 **(1) COUNSELORS;**

28 **(2) DENTAL HYGIENISTS;**

- 1 (3) OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS;
- 2 (4) OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANTS;
- 3 (5) PHYSICAL THERAPISTS;
- 4 (6) SCHOOL COUNSELORS;
- 5 (7) SCHOOL NURSES;
- 6 (8) SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS;
- 7 (9) SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS; AND
- 8 (10) SPEECH–LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS.

9 **24–2502.**

10 (A) THE DEPARTMENT AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
11 JOINTLY SHALL CONDUCT AN ASSESSMENT OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH AND WELLNESS
12 PERSONNEL WORKFORCE IN THE STATE EACH YEAR TO:

13 (1) IDENTIFY THE RATIO OF SCHOOL HEALTH AND WELLNESS
14 PERSONNEL TO STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS BY JURISDICTION;

15 (2) OBTAIN INFORMATION FROM EACH LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM AND
16 LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT REGARDING VACANCY RATES FOR EACH TYPE OF
17 PROVIDER OF SCHOOL HEALTH AND WELLNESS SERVICES; AND

18 (3) OBTAIN FEEDBACK FROM EACH LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM, EACH
19 LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT, ASSOCIATIONS OF SCHOOL HEALTH AND WELLNESS
20 PROFESSIONALS, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS ON STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE THE
21 RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF SCHOOL HEALTH AND WELLNESS PERSONNEL.

22 (B) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2027, AND EACH DECEMBER 1
23 THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
24 JOINTLY SHALL ~~SUBMIT~~:

25 (1) SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE
26 WITH § 2–1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE FINDINGS OF THE
27 ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED UNDER THIS SECTION; AND

28 (2) PUBLISH THE REPORT ON THE WEBSITE OF EACH AGENCY.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 2025.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.