

HOUSE BILL 771

F1
HB 167/24 – W&M

5lr1191

By: **Delegate Harrison**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 4, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Student Health – Program for Student Dental Health – Established**

3 FOR the purpose of ~~requiring, beginning in a certain school year, certain students to submit~~
4 ~~a certificate of dental health to their school on a certain schedule; requiring the State~~
5 Department of Education to support and facilitate each county board of education in
6 publishing certain information on dental health in a certain manner; requiring the
7 Maryland Department of Health to establish a program for student dental health;
8 ~~requiring the Department to develop a certificate of dental health for use in public~~
9 ~~schools;~~ and generally relating to a program for student dental health.

10 ~~BY adding to~~
11 ~~Article – Education~~
12 ~~Section 7-402.1~~
13 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
14 ~~(2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)~~

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – Education
17 Section 4-111.2
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

20 BY adding to
21 Article – Health – General

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 Section 20–2302 to be under the amended subtitle “Subtitle 23. Dental Health
 2 Programs”
 3 Annotated Code of Maryland
 4 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

7 **Article – Education**

8 ~~7–402.1.~~

9 ~~BEGINNING IN THE 2027–2028 SCHOOL YEAR, EACH STUDENT ENROLLED IN A~~
 10 ~~PUBLIC ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL IN THE STATE SHALL SUBMIT TO THE~~
 11 ~~SCHOOL A CERTIFICATE OF DENTAL HEALTH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROGRAM~~
 12 ~~FOR STUDENT DENTAL HEALTH ESTABLISHED UNDER § 20–2302 OF THE HEALTH –~~
 13 ~~GENERAL ARTICLE, ON A SCHEDULE ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT.~~

14 4–111.2.

15 The Department shall:

16 (1) Support and facilitate oral health education, including oral disease
 17 prevention and dental health promotion, in every county;

18 (2) Develop a process to monitor implementation of oral health education;

19 [and]

20 (3) SUPPORT AND FACILITATE EACH COUNTY BOARD IN PUBLISHING
 21 INFORMATION ON STUDENT DENTAL HEALTH THAT IS CREATED BY THE PROGRAM
 22 FOR STUDENT DENTAL HEALTH UNDER § 20–2302 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL
 23 ARTICLE ON THE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM’S WEBSITE AND IN STUDENT HANDBOOKS;
 24 AND

25 [(3)] (4) On or before December 1, 2015, and every 5 years thereafter,
 26 submit to the Governor and, subject to § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the
 27 General Assembly a summary of the information reported by the Department to the State
 28 Superintendent during the certification of the Health Education State Curriculum.

29 **Article – Health – General**

30 Subtitle 23. [Plain Language] Dental **HEALTH [Information] PROGRAMS.**

31 **20–2302.**

1 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A PROGRAM FOR STUDENT
2 DENTAL HEALTH.

3 (B) THE DEPARTMENT'S PROGRAM SHALL INCLUDE:

4 (1) STANDARDS FOR ~~THE~~ RECOMMENDED PERIODIC DENTAL
5 EXAMINATIONS OF STUDENTS; AND

6 ~~(2) THE CREATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF DENTAL HEALTH THAT CAN~~
7 ~~BE USED BY PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 7-402.1 OF THE EDUCATION~~
8 ~~ARTICLE;~~

9 ~~(3) THE CREATION OF A STANDARD FORM TO BE USED BY HEALTH~~
10 ~~CARE PRACTITIONERS, PARENTS, AND SCHOOLS TO CERTIFY A STUDENT'S DENTAL~~
11 ~~HEALTH; AND~~

12 ~~(4)~~ INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS ON:

13 (I) HOW TO FIND INSURANCE THAT WILL COVER DENTAL
14 HEALTH CARE;

15 (II) LISTS OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTS LOCATED IN ~~AREAS~~
16 DIFFERENT REGIONS OF THE STATE; AND

17 (III) THE IMPORTANCE OF DENTAL HEALTH TO A STUDENT'S
18 OVERALL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING.

19 ~~(C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT ITS PROGRAM ON A SCHEDULE~~
20 ~~THAT ALLOWS EACH STUDENT TO SUBMIT A CERTIFICATE OF DENTAL HEALTH TO~~
21 ~~THE STUDENT'S PUBLIC SCHOOL BEGINNING IN THE 2027-2028 SCHOOL YEAR, IN~~
22 ~~ACCORDANCE WITH § 7-402.1 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE.~~

23 ~~(D)~~ THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS
24 SECTION.

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