

# HOUSE BILL 1127

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By: **Delegates Toles, Boaf, Boyce, Fennell, Harris, Holmes, D. Jones, Lehman, Pena-Melnyk, Taveras, Wells, ~~and Wilkins~~ Wilkins, Buckel, Ebersole, Fair, Griffith, Hornberger, Miller, Mireku-North, Patterson, Roberson, Roberts, Wims, and Wu**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 4, 2025

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Schools – Water Safety ~~and Swimming~~ – Instructional Content, ~~Plan, and~~**  
3 **Reporting**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring each county board of education to develop certain  
5 instructional content on water safety ~~and swimming~~ for public school students in the  
6 county; ~~requiring each county board to develop a certain plan regarding access to~~  
7 ~~swimming pools and related facilities for a certain purpose; requiring that the~~  
8 instructional content be offered to students in certain grade bands; and generally  
9 relating to water safety ~~and swimming and county boards of education~~ instruction.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Education

12 Section 7–452

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Education**

18 **7–452.**

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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 (A) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2026, EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL DEVELOP  
2 INSTRUCTIONAL CONTENT ON WATER SAFETY ~~AND SWIMMING~~ THAT IS:

3 (1) INTEGRATED INTO THE HEALTH ~~AND OR~~ PHYSICAL EDUCATION  
4 CURRICULUM FOR EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE COUNTY; AND

5 (2) AGE-APPROPRIATE FOR STUDENTS IN ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE,  
6 AND HIGH SCHOOL.

7 (B) THE INSTRUCTIONAL CONTENT DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF  
8 THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES,  
9 IF PRACTICABLE.

10 (C) BEGINNING IN THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR, EACH COUNTY BOARD  
11 SHALL IMPLEMENT THE INSTRUCTIONAL CONTENT DEVELOPED UNDER  
12 SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION BY OFFERING THE INSTRUCTIONAL CONTENT AS  
13 PART OF THE HEALTH OR PHYSICAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM AT LEAST ONCE IN  
14 ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, AND HIGH SCHOOL.

15 (D) THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO REQUIRE A COUNTY BOARD  
16 TO PROVIDE IN-WATER TRAINING AT A SWIMMING POOL.

17 ~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:~~

18 ~~(a) (1) On or before December 1, 2025, each county board of education shall~~  
19 ~~develop a plan to ensure public school students in the county have access to swimming pools~~  
20 ~~for swimming and taking swimming and water safety courses.~~

21 ~~(2) The plan required under this subsection shall:~~

22 ~~(i) identify strategies to maximize public and private resources to~~  
23 ~~provide access to swimming pools and related facilities for public school students;~~

24 ~~(ii) identify public and private entities in the local community that~~  
25 ~~could partner with schools to offer access to swimming pools and related facilities to public~~  
26 ~~school students during school operating hours;~~

27 ~~(iii) identify methods to increase public school student access to~~  
28 ~~swimming pools and related facilities, including costs and transportation, while keeping~~  
29 ~~costs low; and~~

30 ~~(iv) recommend any necessary changes to policy or law to implement~~  
31 ~~the plan required under paragraph (1) of this subsection and the requirements of § 7-452~~  
32 ~~of the Education Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act.~~

1           ~~(b) On or before December 15, 2025, each county board shall submit a copy of the~~  
2 ~~plan developed under subsection (a) of this section to the State Department of Education.~~

3           ~~(c) On or before January 1, 2026, the State Department of Education shall~~  
4 ~~compile the reports submitted under subsection (b) of this section and submit a report that~~  
5 ~~includes all the county boards' plans to the General Assembly, in accordance with §~~  
6 ~~2-1257 of the State Government Article.~~

7           SECTION ~~2.~~ 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
8 July 1, 2025. ~~Section 2 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the~~  
9 ~~end of June 30, 2026, Section 2 of this Act, with no further action required by the General~~  
10 ~~Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.~~

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.