

SENATE BILL 482

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5lr2770
CF 5lr1452

By: **Senators Gallion, Hershey, Ready, Bailey, Corderman, Carozza, and Jennings**
Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2025
Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Middle and High Schools – Student Discipline**
3 **(Right to Teach Act of 2025)**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing a teacher in a public middle or high school in the State to
5 take certain disciplinary actions in response to certain student behavior and to direct
6 students to certain school officials; prohibiting a county board of education from
7 taking disciplinary action against a certain teacher for certain actions; and generally
8 relating to student discipline in public middle and high schools.

9 BY adding to
10 Article – Education
11 Section 7–306.1
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 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 **7–306.1.**

18 **(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO PUBLIC MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS IN**
19 **THE STATE.**

20 **(B) IN RESPONSE TO BEHAVIOR BY A STUDENT THAT DOES NOT CONFORM**
21 **TO THE BEHAVIORAL GUIDELINES ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY BOARD IN**
22 **ACCORDANCE WITH § 7–306(D) OF THIS SUBTITLE, A TEACHER MAY REMOVE A**
23 **STUDENT FROM THE CLASSROOM IF:**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(1) (I) THE STUDENT HAS REPEATEDLY INTERFERED WITH THE**
2 **TEACHER'S ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE WITH OTHER STUDENTS IN THE CLASSROOM**
3 **OR WITH OTHER STUDENTS' ABILITY TO LEARN EFFECTIVELY; AND**

4 **(II) THE STUDENT'S CONDUCT HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY**
5 **DOCUMENTED BY THE TEACHER; OR**

6 **(2) (I) THE STUDENT EXHIBITS BEHAVIOR THAT IS UNRULY,**
7 **DISRUPTIVE, OR ABUSIVE; AND**

8 **(II) THE BEHAVIOR SIGNIFICANTLY INTERFERES WITH THE**
9 **TEACHER'S ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE WITH OTHER STUDENTS IN THE CLASSROOM**
10 **OR WITH OTHER STUDENTS' ABILITY TO LEARN EFFECTIVELY.**

11 **(C) IF A TEACHER REMOVES A STUDENT FROM THE CLASSROOM UNDER**
12 **SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE TEACHER SHALL:**

13 **(1) DOCUMENT THE STUDENT'S BEHAVIOR;**

14 **(2) SUBMIT THE DOCUMENTATION OF THE BEHAVIOR TO THE**
15 **PRINCIPAL; AND**

16 **(3) SEND THE STUDENT TO THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OR GUIDANCE**
17 **COUNSELOR.**

18 **(D) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, IF**
19 **A STUDENT IS SENT TO THE PRINCIPAL UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION,**
20 **THE PRINCIPAL MAY:**

21 **(I) RETURN THE STUDENT TO THE CLASSROOM;**

22 **(II) PLACE THE STUDENT IN ANOTHER CLASSROOM;**

23 **(III) PLACE THE STUDENT IN IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION;**

24 **(IV) PLACE THE STUDENT IN AN ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM**
25 **ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 7-304 OF THIS SUBTITLE; OR**

26 **(V) LIMIT OR PROHIBIT THE STUDENT'S ATTENDANCE OR**
27 **PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL-SPONSORED OR SCHOOL-RELATED ACTIVITIES.**

28 **(2) A PRINCIPAL MAY NOT RETURN A STUDENT TO A TEACHER'S**
29 **CLASSROOM WITHOUT THE TEACHER'S CONSENT, UNLESS THE PRINCIPAL,**

1 GUIDANCE COUNSELOR, AND TEACHER DETERMINE THAT THE PLACEMENT IS THE
2 BEST OR ONLY OPTION AVAILABLE.

3 (E) IF A STUDENT IS SENT TO THE GUIDANCE COUNSELOR UNDER
4 SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE GUIDANCE COUNSELOR SHALL DISCIPLINE
5 THE STUDENT USING RESTORATIVE APPROACHES IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 7-306 OF
6 THIS SUBTITLE.

7 (F) A COUNTY BOARD MAY NOT TAKE DISCIPLINARY ACTION AGAINST A
8 TEACHER WHO REMOVES A STUDENT FROM A CLASSROOM IN ACCORDANCE WITH
9 SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) OF THIS SECTION.

10 (G) A STUDENT WHO IS REMOVED FROM A CLASSROOM IN ACCORDANCE
11 WITH THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED REMOVED FROM THE CLASSROOM
12 FOR PURPOSES OF A REPORTING REQUIREMENT UNDER § 7-306 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
14 1, 2025.