

SENATE BILL 486

F5, J1

5lr1920
CF HB 672

By: **Senator Lam**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2025

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 11, 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
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 24–2501 and 24–2502 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 25. School
2 Health and Wellness Personnel Assessment”
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 – Health – General**

8 19–22A–05.

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

11 19–22A–06.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 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.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.