

HOUSE BILL 6

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(PRE-FILED)

6lr1426
CF SB 420

By: **Delegate Kerr**

Requested: October 29, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 18, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Institutions of Higher Education – Pregnant and Parenting Students –**
3 **Plan and Reporting**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to collect
5 certain data regarding the parental status of students from each public institution
6 of higher education in the State; requiring public institutions of higher education to
7 collect and report certain demographic data from students; requiring all public
8 institutions of higher education to adopt a certain plan for pregnant and parenting
9 students; altering the definition of “student data” to authorize the Commission to
10 share with the Maryland Longitudinal Data System certain data regarding the
11 parental status of certain students; and generally relating to pregnant and parenting
12 students at public institutions of higher education.

13 BY adding to

14 Article – Education

15 Section 11–409

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

19 Article – Education

20 Section 15–140

21 Annotated Code of Maryland

22 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
2 Article – Education
3 Section 24–701(l)
4 Annotated Code of Maryland
5 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

8 **Article – Education**

9 **11–409.**

10 **(A) (1) THE COMMISSION SHALL COLLECT STUDENT–LEVEL DATA FROM**
11 **EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE ON THE**
12 **PARENTAL STATUS OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN EACH INSTITUTION.**

13 **(2) THE COMMISSION, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PUBLIC**
14 **INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SHALL DEVELOP QUESTIONS THAT ALLOW**
15 **EACH STUDENT TO IDENTIFY:**

16 **(I) WHETHER THE STUDENT IS A PARENT OR A LEGAL**
17 **GUARDIAN, ACTING AS A PARENT OR A LEGAL GUARDIAN, OR EXERCISING CARE,**
18 **CUSTODY, OR CONTROL OVER A CHILD OF ANY AGE;**

19 **(II) THE AGE OF THE CHILDREN FOR WHICH THE STUDENT HAS**
20 **RESPONSIBILITY; AND**

21 **(III) THE TYPE OF CAREGIVING RESPONSIBILITIES THE**
22 **STUDENT PROVIDES, INCLUDING WHETHER THE STUDENT:**

23 **1. IS A SINGLE PARENT; OR**

24 **2. SHARES PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES WITH**
25 **SOMEONE IN THE SAME HOUSEHOLD OR A DIFFERENT HOUSEHOLD.**

26 **(B) (1) EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL PLACE**
27 **THE QUESTIONS DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION ON ONE OR**
28 **MORE FORMS THAT ARE USED BY THE INSTITUTION TO COLLECT DEMOGRAPHIC**
29 **DATA FROM STUDENTS.**

30 **(2) EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL MAKE**
31 **THE DATA COLLECTED UNDER THIS SECTION AVAILABLE TO THE COMMISSION IN**

1 ACCORDANCE WITH THE FORMAT DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER
2 SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION.

3 (C) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS
4 SECTION, INCLUDING:

5 (1) ESTABLISHING A COMMON FORMAT AND TIME FRAME FOR THE
6 COLLECTION AND REPORTING OF THE DATA REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION; AND

7 (2) REQUIRING THE COLLECTION OF PARENTAL STATUS DATA TO BE
8 INCLUDED WITH THE COLLECTION OF OTHER DEMOGRAPHIC DATA.

9 (D) INFORMATION COLLECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION IS NOT
10 CONSIDERED TO BE A MEDICAL OR HEALTH RECORD FOR PURPOSES OF § 24-701(L)
11 OF THIS ARTICLE.

12 (E) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2027, AND EACH SEPTEMBER 1
13 THEREAFTER, THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE SENATE BUDGET
14 AND TAXATION COMMITTEE, THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, ENERGY,
15 AND THE ENVIRONMENT, AND THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, IN
16 ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THAT
17 SUMMARIZES THE DATA COLLECTED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER THIS SECTION.

18 15-140.

19 (a) [(1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

20 (2) “Pregnant] IN THIS SECTION, “PREGNANT and parenting student”
21 means a student enrolled at a public [senior higher education] institution OF HIGHER
22 EDUCATION who:

23 [(i)] (1) Is pregnant; [or]

24 [(ii)] (2) Exercises care, custody, or control over a child[.

25 (3) (i) “Public senior higher education institution” means:

26 1. The constituent institutions of the University System of
27 Maryland;

28 2. Morgan State University; and

29 3. St. Mary’s College of Maryland.

30 (ii) “Public senior higher education institution” does not include:

1 (d) On or before [August] **OCTOBER** 1, 2026, each public [senior higher
2 education] institution **OF HIGHER EDUCATION** shall post the plan adopted under
3 subsection (c) of this section on the institution's website.

4 24-701.

5 (l) (1) "Student data" means data relating to or impacting student
6 performance.

7 (2) "Student data" includes:

8 (i) State and national assessments;

9 (ii) Course-taking and completion;

10 (iii) Grade point average;

11 (iv) Remediation;

12 (v) Retention;

13 (vi) Degree, diploma, or credential attainment;

14 (vii) Enrollment;

15 (viii) Demographic data;

16 (ix) Juvenile delinquency records;

17 (x) Elementary and secondary school disciplinary records;

18 (xi) Child welfare data;

19 (xii) License, industry certificate, or vocational certificate;

20 (xiii) Personally identifiable information; [and]

21 (xiv) **PARENTAL STATUS; AND**

22 (xv) Student disability data by specific disability category.

23 (3) "Student data" does not include:

24 (i) Criminal and CINA records; [and]

25 (ii) Medical and health records; AND

1 **(III) PREGNANCY STATUS.**

2 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
3 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.