

HOUSE BILL 627

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HB 875/25 – W&M

6lr0936

By: **Delegates Acevero, Alston, Amprey, Fair, Fennell, Hornberger, Lewis, Martinez, Mireku-North, Roberson, Ruff, Simmons, Taylor, Terrasa, Turner, Woods, Woorman, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2026

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in Education – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in
4 Education to make recommendations to the State Board of Education and the State
5 Department of Education to further the discovery, interpretation, and learning of
6 the history, culture, and civics of the United States and Maryland and to provide
7 equitable learning outcomes consistent with certain provisions of the Blueprint for
8 Maryland's Future; and generally relating to the Commission on History, Culture,
9 and Civics in Education.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Education

12 Section 7–137

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 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 **7–137.**

19 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “COMMISSION” MEANS THE COMMISSION ON
20 HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVICS IN EDUCATION.

21 (B) (1) THERE IS A COMMISSION ON HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVICS IN
22 EDUCATION.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION IS TO:

5 (II) PROVIDE EQUITABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES REGARDLESS
6 OF A STUDENT'S FAMILY INCOME, RACE, ETHNICITY, DISABILITY, OR OTHER
7 CHARACTERISTICS CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE BLUEPRINT FOR
8 MARYLAND'S FUTURE IN § 1-303 OF THIS ARTICLE.

9 **(C) (1) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS**
10 **APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR FROM A LIST OF NOMINEES:**

15 (II) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND
16 LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY, ONE OF WHOM IDENTIFIES AS TRANSGENDER,
17 NOMINATED BY THE MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LGBTQIA+ CAUCUS;

20 (IV) TWO MEMBERS WHO ARE TEACHERS OR HOLD A TEACHING
21 LICENSE IN THE STATE:

26 (v) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND LATINO
27 COMMUNITY, NOMINATED BY THE MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS;

28 (VI) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND AFRICAN
29 AMERICAN COMMUNITY, NOMINATED BY THE LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS OF
30 MARYLAND;

1 (vii) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND ASIAN
2 AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITY, NOMINATED BY THE MARYLAND
3 LEGISLATIVE ASIAN-AMERICAN AND PACIFIC-ISLANDER CAUCUS;

4 (VIII) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, TWO
5 MEMBERS REPRESENTING HIGHER EDUCATION:

10 (IX) THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, OR THE STATE
11 SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE.

16 (D) (1) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE
17 COMMISSION SHALL REFLECT THE GENDER, RACIAL, ETHNIC, AND GEOGRAPHIC
18 DIVERSITY OF THE STATE.

22 (E) (1) THE TERM OF A MEMBER IS 4 YEARS

25 (F) THE COMMISSION MEMBERS SHALL ELECT A CHAIR FROM AMONG THE
26 MEMBERS

27 (G) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE COMMISSION

28 (H) A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION:

29 (1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE
30 COMMISSION; BUT

6 (I) THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF NATIVE AMERICANS, LATINOS,
7 AFRICAN AMERICANS, AND ASIAN AMERICANS;

8 (II) THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL,
9 TRANSGENDER, AND QUEER INDIVIDUALS WITHIN THE MINORITY GROUPS;

10 (III) THE INTERSECTIONALITY OF SIGNIFICANT SOCIAL AND
11 CULTURAL FEATURES WITHIN THE MINORITY COMMUNITIES;

12 (IV) THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND PERSECUTION OF RELIGIOUS
13 MINORITIES;

14 (v) THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE MARYLAND DISABLED
15 COMMUNITY; AND

16 (vi) THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WOMEN;

23 (I) LIVE AND ARCHIVED VIDEO STREAMING OF EACH
24 COMMISSION MEETING;

25 (II) MEETING AGENDAS, MATERIALS, AND NOTES; AND

26 (III) COMMISSION REPORTS; AND

27 (4) USE MULTIPLE COMMUNICATIONS METHODS TO PROVIDE
28 UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS RELATED TO THE COMMISSION.

1 **(J) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 30 EACH YEAR, BEGINNING IN 2026, THE**
2 **COMMISSION SHALL REPORT ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE**
3 **BOARD, THE GOVERNOR, AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE**
4 **GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

5 **(K) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1 EACH YEAR, THE STATE BOARD SHALL:**

6 **(1) REVIEW THE COMMISSION'S FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS;**
7 **AND**

8 **(2) MAKE ANY APPROPRIATE CHANGES TO THE EDUCATIONAL**
9 **STANDARDS FOR PREKINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 12.**

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the initial
11 members of the Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in Education shall expire as
12 follows:

13 (1) the eight members representing the indigenous American tribes,
14 Maryland Latino community, African American community, and Asian American and
15 Pacific Islander community in 2028; and

16 (2) the eight members representing the LGBTQIA+ community, disabled
17 community, teachers, and higher education in 2030.

18 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
19 1, 2026.