

HOUSE BILL 943

F1

6lr2914
CF SB 592

By: **Delegate Forbes**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2026

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Board of Education – Financial Literacy – Graduation Requirement**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Board of Education to establish a certain graduation
4 requirement in financial literacy; authorizing county boards of education to
5 determine the curriculum, instructional materials, and placement of the personal
6 financial literacy course; requiring students, beginning with a certain graduating
7 class, to successfully complete a certain personal financial literacy course; requiring
8 county boards, on successful completion of the course, to award certain credit to
9 students and to allow students to fulfill certain remaining credit requirements
10 through certain existing courses; and generally relating to high school graduation
11 requirements in financial literacy.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
13 Article – Education
14 Section 7–205(b)(2) and (c)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

17 BY adding to
18 Article – Education
19 Section 7–213
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

24 **Article – Education**

25 7–205.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(b) The promotion of students in a public school and graduation from a public high school shall be in accordance with:

(2) The rules and regulations of the State Board.

(c) (1) Each student who graduates from a public high school shall receive the same type of diploma or certificate, regardless of the high school attended or the course taken.

(2) The diploma or certificate shall state that the student has completed a program of studies satisfactorily in accordance with the requirements of the State Board.

7-213.

(A) (1) THE STATE BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENT IN FINANCIAL LITERACY THAT ALIGNS WITH THE STATE CURRICULUM FOR PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY EDUCATION GRADES 3-12 STANDARDS.

(2) THE FINANCIAL LITERACY GRADUATION REQUIREMENT ESTABLISHED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE:

(I) AT LEAST 1 SEMESTER IN LENGTH;

(II) TAUGHT IN GRADES 11 OR 12; AND

(III) A STANDALONE COURSE AND NOT EMBEDDED IN OTHER COURSEWORK.

(B) EACH COUNTY BOARD MAY DETERMINE THE CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS, AND DEPARTMENTAL PLACEMENT OF THE PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY COURSE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY EDUCATION GRADES 3-12 STANDARDS AND THIS SECTION.

(C) (1) BEGINNING WITH THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2030, EACH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SHALL SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY COURSE THAT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

(2) ON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE COURSE, A COUNTY BOARD SHALL:

(I) AWARD THE STUDENT AT LEAST ONE-HALF CREDIT TOWARD THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA; AND

1 **(II) ALLOW THE STUDENT TO FULFILL ANY REMAINING**
2 **ONE-HALF CREDIT REQUIREMENT THROUGH AN EXISTING COURSE IN BUSINESS,**
3 **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION, ELECTIVES, FAMILY AND CONSUMER**
4 **SCIENCES, MATHEMATICS, OR SOCIAL STUDIES.**

5 **(D) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO RESTRICT A**
6 **COUNTY BOARD TO:**

7 **(1) USE A SPECIFIC CURRICULUM, VENDOR, OR PUBLISHER OR**
8 **SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS FOR THE PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY**
9 **COURSE; OR**

10 **(2) REQUIRE THE COURSE TO BE TAUGHT EXCLUSIVELY WITHIN A**
11 **SPECIFIC DEPARTMENT OR SUBJECT AREA.**

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
13 1, 2026.