

HOUSE BILL 1310

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6lr3050

By: **Delegates Coley, Acevero, Amprey, Conaway, Fennell, Healey, Kaufman, McComas, Phillips, Ruff, Smith, Solomon, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2026

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public High Schools – Student Transcripts – Traumatic Loss Notation**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that a certain high school student who experiences a certain
4 traumatic loss may request the inclusion of a traumatic loss notation on the student’s
5 official transcript; requiring a local school system to print a certain traumatic loss
6 notation on a certain student’s official transcript under certain circumstances;
7 requiring the State Department of Education to develop standard language for a
8 traumatic loss notation; requiring high school counselors to provide certain
9 information to students and surviving parents under certain circumstances; and
10 generally relating to a traumatic loss notation on high school student transcripts.

11 BY adding to

12 Article – Education

13 Section 7–213

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Education**

19 **7–213.**

20 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
21 **INDICATED.**

22 **(2) “PARENT” INCLUDES A STEPPARENT AND GUARDIAN.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(3) “TRAUMATIC LOSS” MEANS THE DEATH OF A PARENT AS A RESULT**
2 **OF REPRODUCTIVE CANCER, INCLUDING BREAST CANCER, CERVICAL CANCER, AND**
3 **UTERINE CANCER.**

4 **(B) A STUDENT WHO EXPERIENCES A TRAUMATIC LOSS WHILE ENROLLED**
5 **IN HIGH SCHOOL MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN REQUEST TO THE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM**
6 **TO INCLUDE A TRAUMATIC LOSS NOTATION ON THE STUDENT’S OFFICIAL**
7 **TRANSCRIPT TO INDICATE AN IMPACT ON THE STUDENT’S ACADEMIC**
8 **PERFORMANCE, ACHIEVEMENT, OR ATTENDANCE.**

9 **(C) A STUDENT IS ELIGIBLE TO REQUEST A TRAUMATIC LOSS NOTATION ON**
10 **THE STUDENT’S OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT IF THE STUDENT SUBMITS TO THE LOCAL**
11 **SCHOOL SYSTEM:**

12 **(1) A REQUEST TO INCLUDE A TRAUMATIC LOSS NOTATION ON THE**
13 **FORM PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM; AND**

14 **(2) (I) A COPY OF THE PARENT’S DEATH CERTIFICATE LISTING A**
15 **CAUSE OF DEATH THAT QUALIFIES AS A TRAUMATIC LOSS; OR**

16 **(II) A LETTER FROM A LICENSED HEALTH CARE PROVIDER**
17 **VERIFYING THAT THE PARENT’S CAUSE OF DEATH QUALIFIES AS A TRAUMATIC LOSS.**

18 **(D) (1) ON RECEIPT OF A REQUEST FROM A STUDENT ELIGIBLE UNDER**
19 **SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, A LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM SHALL PRINT A**
20 **TRAUMATIC LOSS NOTATION ON THE STUDENT’S OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT USING THE**
21 **STANDARD LANGUAGE DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER SUBSECTION (E)**
22 **OF THIS SECTION.**

23 **(2) A LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM SHALL REMOVE A TRAUMATIC LOSS**
24 **NOTATION FROM A STUDENT’S OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT AT THE WRITTEN REQUEST OF**
25 **THE STUDENT.**

26 **(E) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP STANDARD LANGUAGE FOR A**
27 **TRAUMATIC LOSS NOTATION PRINTED ON AN OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT BY A LOCAL**
28 **SCHOOL SYSTEM UNDER THIS SECTION.**

29 **(2) TO MAINTAIN STUDENT PRIVACY, THE STANDARD LANGUAGE**
30 **DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL REFER TO THE TRAUMATIC LOSS AS**
31 **EITHER:**

32 **(I) A DOCUMENTED COMPELLING PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCE;**
33 **OR**

1 **(II) AN EXCEPTIONAL HARDSHIP ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.**

2 **(3) A TRAUMATIC LOSS NOTATION:**

3 **(1) SHALL STATE THE SCHOOL YEAR OR YEARS THE STUDENT**
4 **WAS IMPACTED BY THE TRAUMATIC LOSS; AND**

5 **(2) WITH THE APPROVAL OF A SURVIVING PARENT IF THE**
6 **STUDENT IS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS, MAY BE ACCOMPANIED BY A LETTER**
7 **WRITTEN BY THE STUDENT DESCRIBING THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE STUDENT'S**
8 **TRAUMATIC LOSS AND THE IMPACT ON THE STUDENT'S ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE,**
9 **ACHIEVEMENT, OR ATTENDANCE.**

10 **(F) ON NOTIFICATION THAT A STUDENT HAS EXPERIENCED A TRAUMATIC**
11 **LOSS, A HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR SHALL:**

12 **(1) INFORM THE STUDENT AND ANY SURVIVING PARENT OF THE**
13 **OPTION FOR REQUESTING A TRAUMATIC LOSS NOTATION ON THE STUDENT'S**
14 **OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT; AND**

15 **(2) ADVISE THE STUDENT ON HOW THE TRAUMATIC LOSS NOTATION**
16 **MAY BE USED TO EXPLAIN FLUCTUATIONS IN ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE,**
17 **ACHIEVEMENT, OR ATTENDANCE.**

18 **(G) THE STATE BOARD MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE**
19 **PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.**

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
21 1, 2026.