

HOUSE BILL 1397

F1

6lr2451

By: **Delegates Toles, Harrison, Ivey, McCaskill, Patterson, and Shetty**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2026

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **School Construction – Gross Area Baseline Calculation – Aquatic Facilities**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Interagency Commission on School Construction, when
4 calculating a school’s Gross Area Baseline, to allocate square footage to accommodate
5 certain aquatic facilities; requiring each local school system to develop a certain
6 facilities plan before a certain school year; requiring the Interagency Commission to
7 collaborate with each school system on developing a certain facilities plan; and
8 generally relating to calculating Gross Area Baseline and aquatic facilities.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Education

11 Section 5–331

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Education**

17 **5–331.**

18 **WHEN CALCULATING A SCHOOL’S GROSS AREA BASELINE, THE**
19 **INTERAGENCY COMMISSION SHALL ALLOCATE SQUARE FOOTAGE TO**
20 **ACCOMMODATE AQUATIC FACILITIES FOR ATHLETIC EDUCATION AND COMPETITIVE**
21 **PURPOSES.**

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

23 (a) Before the 2026–2027 school year begins, each local school system shall

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 develop a facilities plan that identifies options for students to have access to a pool or
2 aquatic facilities.

3 (b) The Interagency Commission on School Construction shall collaborate with
4 each local school system to develop the plan under subsection (a) of this section.

5 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
6 1, 2026.