

# HOUSE BILL 1457

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6lr1535  
CF SB 715

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By: **Washington County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2026

Assigned to: Judiciary

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 6, 2026

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Washington County – Juveniles – Truancy Reduction Pilot Program**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Circuit Administrative Judge of the Fourth Circuit to  
4 establish a Truancy Reduction Pilot Program in the juvenile court in Washington  
5 County; and generally relating to Truancy Reduction Pilot Programs.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
7 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
8 Section 3–8C–01  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
13 Section 3–8C–02  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2020 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 – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

19 3–8C–01.

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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 This subtitle applies only:

2 (1) In a county in which the circuit administrative judge has established a  
3 Truancy Reduction Pilot Program under § 3–8C–02 of this subtitle; and

4 (2) To the extent that funds are provided in an annual State budget for a  
5 Truancy Reduction Pilot Program.

6 3–8C–02.

7 (a) (1) The Circuit Administrative Judge of the First Circuit may establish a  
8 Truancy Reduction Pilot Program in one or more of the juvenile courts in Dorchester  
9 County, Somerset County, Wicomico County, and Worcester County.

10 (2) The Circuit Administrative Judge of the Second Circuit may establish  
11 a Truancy Reduction Pilot Program in the juvenile courts in Kent County and Talbot  
12 County.

13 (3) The Circuit Administrative Judge of the Third Circuit may establish a  
14 Truancy Reduction Pilot Program in the juvenile court in Harford County.

15 **(4) THE CIRCUIT ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE OF THE FOURTH CIRCUIT**  
16 **MAY ESTABLISH A TRUANCY REDUCTION PILOT PROGRAM IN THE JUVENILE COURT**  
17 **IN WASHINGTON COUNTY.**

18 **[(4)] (5)** The Circuit Administrative Judge of the Sixth Circuit may  
19 establish a Truancy Reduction Pilot Program in the juvenile court in Frederick County.

20 **[(5)] (6)** The Circuit Administrative Judge of the Seventh Circuit may  
21 establish a Truancy Reduction Pilot Program in the juvenile court in Prince George's  
22 County.

23 (b) After consultation with the administrative judges of the first, second, third,  
24 **FOURTH**, sixth, and seventh circuits, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Maryland  
25 may accept a gift or grant to implement the pilot programs in each respective circuit.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
27 October 1, 2026.