

HOUSE BILL 1582

F1

6lr0170
CF 6lr0169

By: **Chair, Ways and Means Committee (By Request – Departmental – Education)**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2026

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 15, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Program of Educational Accountability – Alterations**
3 **(Comprehensive Outcomes and Measures of Progress for Supporting Schools**
4 **(COMPASS Act))**

5 FOR the purpose of altering the school quality indicators authorized for an educational
6 accountability program in public schools; prohibiting the use of certain indicators in
7 an educational accountability system; and generally relating to accountability in
8 public schools.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Education
11 Section 7–203(c)
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 7–203.

18 (c) (1) National standardized testing may not be the only measure for
19 evaluating educational accountability.

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 (2) (i) An educational accountability program shall include at least
2 three school quality indicators that measure the comparative opportunities provided to
3 students or the level of student success in public schools.

4 (ii) 1. One of the school quality indicators under subparagraph
5 (i) of this paragraph shall be school climate surveys.

6 2. The school climate surveys shall include at least one
7 question to educators regarding the receipt of critical instructional feedback.

8 (iii) Other school quality indicators may include:

9 1. Class size;

10 2. Case load;

11 3. Opportunities for:

12 A. Advanced Placement courses and International
13 Baccalaureate Programs;

14 B. Career and Technology Education Programs; and

15 C. Dual enrollment;

16 4. Chronic absenteeism;

17 5. Data on discipline and restorative practices; [and]

18 6. [Access] **SCHOOL STAFFING MEASURES, INCLUDING**
19 ~~ACCESS to teachers who hold an Advanced Professional Certificate or have obtained~~
20 ~~National Board Certification; AND~~

21 **7. COMPLETION OF WELL-ROUNDED CURRICULUM**
22 **MEASURES THAT ARE INDICATIVE OF ON-TRACK PROGRESS AT KEY TRANSITION**
23 **POINTS WITHIN ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION.**

24 (iv) [The] **EXCEPT FOR THE COMPLETION OF WELL-ROUNDED**
25 **CURRICULUM MEASURES, THE** school quality indicators used in subparagraph (i) of this
26 paragraph may not be based on student testing.

27 (v) 1. The State Board shall establish a composite score that
28 provides for meaningful differentiation of schools under the school accountability system.

29 2. The composite score established under subparagraph
30 1 of this subparagraph shall:

1 A. Include both academic and school quality indicators;

2 B. Incorporate a methodology that compares schools that
3 share similar demographic characteristics, including the proportion of economically
4 disadvantaged students, as defined by the State in accordance with federal law; and

5 C. Be reported in a manner that states for each score the
6 individual indicator score that is used to calculate the composite score for each school.

7 3. The combined total of the academic indicators may not
8 exceed ~~[65%]~~ **70%** of the composite score.

9 4. The composite score:

10 A. Shall be calculated numerically in a percentile form; [and]

11 **B. SHALL BE REPORTED SHOWING THE INDIVIDUAL**
12 **INDICATORS; AND**

13 **[B.] C.** May not be reported using a letter grade model.

14 5. No academic indicator may be weighted as less than 10%
15 of the total amount of the composite score.

16 6. No school quality indicator described under this
17 paragraph may be weighted as less than 10% of the total amount of the composite score.

18 **7. NO ACADEMIC INDICATOR OF PROFICIENCY MAY BE**
19 **WEIGHTED AS MORE THAN 20% OF THE COMPOSITE SCORE.**

20 **8.** Subject to this subparagraph, the final weights of the
21 academic and school quality indicators shall be determined by the State Board, with
22 stakeholder input.

23 (vi) [Of the academic indicators established by the State Board under
24 subparagraph (v) of this paragraph, one shall be access to or credit for completion of a
25 well-rounded curriculum that is indicative of on-track progress at key transition points
26 within elementary and secondary education] **WHEN ESTABLISHING OR CALCULATING**
27 **THE STATE ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM, INDICATORS ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE**
28 **BOARD MAY NOT INCORPORATE, REFERENCE, OR RELY ON ANY TEACHER**
29 **EVALUATION.**

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, ~~from on or before~~ July 1,
31 2027, ~~through June 30, 2031,~~ and each July 1 thereafter until July 1, 2031, the State

1 Department of Education shall report to the State Board of Education and, in accordance
2 with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on:

3 (1) any indicator under § 7–203(c)(2)(iii) of the Education Article, as
4 enacted by Section 1 of this Act, that is not included in the composite score ~~shall be reported~~
5 ~~annually to the State Board of Education; and~~

6 (2) the correlation between the proportion of students in a school from
7 low-income households and the school's accountability rating under the education
8 accountability program required under § 7–203 of the Education Article, as amended by
9 Section 1 of this Act, for each of the past 3 years for:

10 (i) the school's overall composite score; and

11 (ii) each indicator used to make up the composite score.

12 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
13 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.