



**Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.**  
State Superintendent of Schools

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<b>BILL:</b>	Senate Bill 654	<b>DATE:</b>	February 25, 2021
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Education - Comprehensive Health Education Program - Instruction on Skin Cancer	<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
<b>POSITION:</b>	Information Only		
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#### **EXPLANATION:**

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) is providing information for consideration regarding **Senate Bill (SB) 654 – Education – Comprehensive Health Education Program - Instruction on Skin Cancer**, which requires each county board to provide age-appropriate instruction on skin cancer as part of the Comprehensive Health Education program.

MSDE, in collaboration with local school system leaders and experts in the field of Health Education, revised and published an updated [Maryland Framework for Comprehensive Health Education](#) in July 2020. In response to the introduction of [Senate Bill 695 during the 2020 legislative session](#) we were intentional in strengthening instruction on skin cancer throughout the elementary and secondary Health Education Framework revisions. This Framework specifies what every child should know and be able to do at each grade level. Local school systems develop curricula that align to the State Framework.

Instruction related to skin cancer is mandated for all Maryland students at a variety of grade-levels as part of the Comprehensive Health Education program. Disease Prevention is one of six core concepts that is part of the Comprehensive Health Education program. The Health Education Framework includes the indicators below related to skin cancer:

##### Grade 1

List ways to prevent harmful effects of the sun. 1f.1.5

##### Grade 2

Explain how to protect one's skin and other parts of the body from the sun. 1f.2.5

##### Grade 3

Describe ways to prevent harmful effects of the sun. 1f.3.3

Grade 6

Summarize actions to take to protect one's skin against potential damage from exposure to the sun. 1f.6.6

Grade 7

Explain why it is important to protect oneself against potential skin damage from exposure to the sun. 1f.7.7

Explain the behavioral and environmental factors that contribute to chronic diseases including cancer, cardiovascular disease, and diabetes. 1f.7.1

High School I

Summarize the symptoms and prevention of skin cancer. 1f.HS1.7

Analyze the factors that contribute to the major chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer, diabetes, hypertension, osteoporosis, and skin cancer. 1f.HS1.1

High School II

Summarize the potential health and social consequences of popular fads or trends such as tanning beds, body piercing, and tattooing. 1f.HS2.4

We respectfully request that you consider this information as you deliberate **SB 654**. For further information, please contact Zachary Hands, at 410-767-0504, or [Zachary.hands1@maryland.gov](mailto:Zachary.hands1@maryland.gov).