

HB1170/Primary and Secondary Education - Virtual Schools - Alterations

Ways and Means

March 3, 2021

HB 1170 removes the virtual public schools from State Board regulations, including the oversight and accountability required of the State under federal law, such as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). ESSA requires the MSDE to adopt challenging state academic standards; annual academic assessments; and accountability requirements on a number of indicators, including student attendance and class sizes. Removing the requirement that virtual schools follow State regulations surrounding ESSA would eliminate compliance with federal law.

We respectfully request that you consider this information as you deliberate **HB1170**. For further information, please contact Zachary Hands, at 410-767-0504, or Zachary.hands1@maryland.gov.