

Bill:	House Bill 782	Date:	March 27, 2025
Title:	Study on Detecting Deadly Weapons in Public Middle and High Schools	Committee:	Education, Energy and the Environment
Position:	Letter of Support	Contact:	Kimberly Buckheit kimberly.buckheit1@maryland.gov 443-902-0622

On behalf of the Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS), thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter of support for **House Bill 782**. MCSS remains committed to assisting local school systems in implementing a [layered approach](#) to school safety.

MCSS appreciates being able to provide feedback and supports the amended bill including:

- Shifting the designated agency from the Department of Education to MCSS.
- Modifying the reporting timeline to include an interim report on December 1, 2025 and a final report on December 1, 2026.
- Including language to protect from public record all data, reports, and materials that include potentially sensitive safety or security information about a public school collected for the purpose of meeting the requirement outlined in this bill as afforded to other school safety and security materials under the Public Information Act (General Provisions § 4-314.1).

MCSS welcomes the opportunity to meet with members of each local school system to assess physical and technological security measures currently in use and to assist in the identification of any gaps or areas of improvement. This information will build on information currently collected by MCSS and further enhance local safety and security efforts. MCSS remains committed to providing the most current information about emerging school safety technologies to Maryland schools as local communities make decisions to best meet their needs. The study and evaluations in House Bill 782 align with this commitment.

Thank you again for taking the time to consider the information shared above, and MCSS respectfully requests the committee give House Bill 782 a favorable report.