

TO: Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment

BILL: House Bill (HB) 1265 – Education – Reportable Offenses and Prohibited Behavior on School Grounds – Alterations

DATE: March 27, 2025

POSITION: Information

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) provides this information regarding **House Bill (HB) 1265 – Education – Reportable Offenses and Prohibited Behavior on School Grounds – Alterations**.

HB 1265 Summary

HB 1265 requires MSDE, in consultation with the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS), the Maryland State’s Attorneys’ Association, the Juvenile Services Education Program (JSEP), the Public School Superintendents’ Association of Maryland, the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association, and the Maryland Sheriffs’ Association, to develop an operational protocol to guide the transmission of reportable offenses information. The protocol will cover transmission from law enforcement to the schools, and from the schools/DJS to a school which a student with a pending reportable offense charge or who has been convicted or adjudicated delinquent of the reportable offense enrolls in or is transferred to.

HB 1265 adds a requirement that the local superintendent, school principal, and DJS must transmit information about a reportable offense and its disposition to the local superintendent of a school in which the student charged with a reportable offense has enrolled. The requirement of DJS to notify the local superintendent for the school system that the student is transferring to, if the disposition of the student’s case was a conviction or an adjudication of delinquency of the criminal charge or delinquency petition is still pending is a new requirement of DJS as specified in HB 1265. If the student is enrolled in the Juvenile Services Education Program (JSEP), DJS must consult with JSEP.

Current law requires law enforcement agencies to notify the local superintendent, the school principal, and the school security officer, for schools that have a school security officer, of the arrest and charges, for cases of students alleged to have committed a reportable offense, as defined in statute. At present, if the State’s Attorney has been notified by law enforcement, the State’s Attorney must notify the local superintendent or the school principal of the disposition of a case of a student charged with a reportable offense. HB 1265 adds that the State’s Attorney’s must notify the local superintendent, the school principal, and the school security officer, for schools that have a school security officer.

MSDE Information

The addition of reporting responsibilities for DJS and the development of an operational protocol for transmitting reportable offenses information, as required by HB 1265, will standardize reporting procedures across the state and enable local schools to make informed decisions to preserve the safety

and security of the school environment. It will also require DJS to report on Maryland students returning from out of state enrolling in a Maryland school thereby addressing a possible gap in sharing information.

[Section 7-303 of the Education Article](#) provides schools with information regarding criminal activity outside of the schools' purview, as such information may be necessary to make critical decisions to maintain the safety of the educational environment. The requirement that the State's Attorney notify specific parties strengthens reporting requirements related to the disposition of reportable offense charge, if the State's Attorney has been notified by law enforcement. For a student removed from the regular school program as a result of a reportable offense, COMAR 13A.08.01.17 requires local schools to review the student's placement every 45-days, or upon notification of disposition of the charge.

HB 1265 clarifies that prohibitions and penalties do not apply to students currently attending the institution of elementary, secondary or high education where the offense occurs or where a student is attending a sporting event or other extracurricular program sponsored by the institution where the offense occurs. These actions would not be handled as a reportable offense but rather an offense on school property.

The Maryland State Department of Education has been collecting and reporting reportable offenses data since this requirement was introduced by statute in 2022. MSDE was responsible for promulgating regulations related to reportable offenses and providing technical assistance sessions to the local education agencies (LEAs) regarding proper implementation of reportable offenses law.

For further information, please contact Dr. Akilah Alleyne at 410-767-0504, or Akilah.alleyne@maryland.gov