



Committee: House Ways and Means Committee

Bill Number: House Bill 1582 - Education - Program of Educational Accountability - Alterations (Comprehensive Outcomes and Measures of Progress for Supporting Schools (COMPASS Act))

Hearing Date: March 11, 2026

Position: Support

The Maryland Association of School Health Nurses (MASHN) and the Maryland Assembly for School-Based Health Care (MASBHC) support *House Bill 1582- Education – Program of Educational Accountability Alterations (Comprehensive Outcomes and Measures of Progress for Supporting Schools)*. The bill would expand the list of quality indicators to include school staffing patterns in the Maryland State Department of Education’s evaluation of schools.

We would recommend that school staffing patterns take into account the number of school nurses and other school health personnel in schools. With the rising number of students with chronic diseases, more school nurses are needed to work with primary care providers and coordinate their care in school.ⁱ

Last year, the Maryland General Assembly enacted *House Bill 672 - School Health and Wellness Personnel Assessment and Maryland Council on Advancement of School-Based Health Centers* to require an annual assessment of the number of school nurses and other school health personnel in schools. The Maryland State Department of Education could use this information in evaluating school staffing patterns in a school.

We ask for a favorable report on this legislation. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.

ⁱ <https://www.nasn.org/advocacy/advocacy-what-school-nurses-do>