

**BILL:** House Bill 123  
**TITLE:** School Systems - Reportable Offenses - Alterations  
**HEARING DATE:** February 5, 2026  
**POSITION:** Letter of Information  
**COMMITTEE:** Ways and Means  
**CONTACT:** Sam Mathias, Legal & Policy Director ([smathias@mabe.org](mailto:smathias@mabe.org))

The Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE), representing all the state's local boards of education, provides this informational letter for **House Bill 123 – School Systems - Reportable Offenses – Alterations**.

House Bill 123 would make several significant changes to existing law governing the reporting and sharing of student arrest information. The bill expands the definition of “school system” to include institutions of higher education in which a student is dually enrolled, thereby extending reporting requirements beyond the K–12 setting. It also broadens the list of “reportable offenses” to include additional violent and sex-related crimes.

MABE respectfully notes that the issues raised in House Bill 123 are currently the subject of active, coordinated statewide review through the [Commission on Juvenile Justice Reform and Emerging Best Practices](#). Through its Juvenile Justice Processes and Systems Coordination Workgroup, which is comprised of members of the General Assembly, sheriffs, judges, school superintendents, mental health advocates, representatives of the Department of Juvenile Services, and other key stakeholders, the Commission is examining issues related to the reporting and sharing of information concerning student offenses.

As we understand, the workgroup continues to meet and is in the process of developing a work plan that is expected to address, among other areas:

- Establishing uniform, statewide processes for law enforcement and State’s Attorney notifications;
- Creating a consistent framework for sharing reportable offense information from arrest through disposition;
- Addressing information gaps that arise during student transfers;
- Identifying any statutory or regulatory changes needed to support timely and consistent information sharing; and

- Ensuring that any recommended processes appropriately balance confidentiality protections with school safety, coordination, and student services.

MABE offers this information to make the General Assembly aware of the Commission's ongoing good faith work as legislation related to juvenile offenses and information-sharing is considered during this session. Given the complexity of these issues surrounding sharing sensitive information the need to align education, juvenile justice, and law enforcement systems; and the good-faith, ongoing, collaborative work of the Commission, MABE respectfully encourages consideration of allowing the Commission's work to proceed and inform any legislative action in this area.