

# HOUSE BILL 947

F1, J1

5lr0907  
CF SB 251

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By: Delegates Pena–Melnyk, Angel, Atterbeary, B. Barnes, Beidle, Campos, Carozza, Carr, Chang, Cullison, Davis, Fraser–Hidalgo, Frick, Frush, Healey, Hill, Hixson, C. Howard, S. Howard, Jalisi, Kaiser, Kelly, Lam, McComas, McDonough, A. Miller, Moon, Morales, O’Donnell, Oaks, Pendergrass, B. Robinson, S. Robinson, Saab, Sample–Hughes, Shoemaker, Simonaire, Smith, Sophocleus, Tarlau, Valderrama, Valentino–Smith, Vaughn, Waldstreicher, A. Washington, M. Washington, West, B. Wilson, C. Wilson, K. Young, and Zucker

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2015

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board – School Counselors –**  
3 **Certification Renewal Requirement**  
4 **(Lauryn’s Law)**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board to  
6 require, beginning on a certain date, certain applicants for renewal of certification  
7 as a school counselor to have successfully completed a certain number of credit hours  
8 of continuing professional development in a certain course regarding the recognition  
9 of, initial screening for, and response to emotional and behavioral distress in  
10 students and other individuals; requiring a certain course to include certain  
11 information; requiring the Board to adopt certain regulations; and generally relating  
12 to a certification renewal requirement for school counselors by the Professional  
13 Standards and Teacher Education Board.

14 BY adding to  
15 Article – Education  
16 Section 6–704.1  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
20 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 **Article – Education**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **6-704.1.**

2 (A) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2016, THE BOARD SHALL REQUIRE AN APPLICANT  
3 FOR RENEWAL OF A CERTIFICATE AS A SCHOOL COUNSELOR TO HAVE  
4 SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED 1 CREDIT HOUR OF CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL  
5 DEVELOPMENT IN AN EVIDENCE-BASED COURSE THAT PROVIDES THE KNOWLEDGE  
6 AND SKILL STANDARDS REGARDING THE RECOGNITION OF, INITIAL SCREENING  
7 FOR, AND RESPONSE TO EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIORAL DISTRESS IN STUDENTS AND  
8 OTHER INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING INDICATORS OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE, VIOLENCE,  
9 MENTAL ILLNESS, AND YOUTH SUICIDE.

10 (B) THE COURSE REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION  
11 SHALL INCLUDE:

12 (1) STRATEGIES FOR HELPING AN INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCING A  
13 MENTAL HEALTH OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE CRISIS;

14 (2) AN INTRODUCTION TO THE RISK FACTORS AND WARNING SIGNS  
15 FOR MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROBLEMS;

16 (3) INFORMATION OF EVIDENCE-SUPPORTED TREATMENT AND  
17 SELF-HELP STRATEGIES; AND

18 (4) IDENTIFYING PROFESSIONAL HELP AND OTHER SUPPORTS AND  
19 RESOURCES FOR INDIVIDUALS IN CRISIS.

20 (C) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE  
21 PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
23 1, 2015.