

Chapter 585

(House Bill 1522)

AN ACT concerning

Needs Assessment for Student ~~School-Based~~ School-Based Behavioral Health Counseling Services ~~Throughout the Year~~

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of ~~Mental~~ Health and Mental Hygiene and the ~~Maryland~~ State Department of Education to conduct a needs assessment for student ~~school-based~~ school-based behavioral health ~~counseling~~ services ~~throughout the school year~~; requiring the assessment to include certain matters; and generally relating to an assessment of student ~~school-based~~ school-based behavioral ~~counseling~~ services ~~throughout the school year~~.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) The Department of ~~Mental~~ Health and Mental Hygiene and the ~~Maryland~~ State Department of Education shall conduct a needs assessment for student school based ~~counseling~~ behavioral health services ~~throughout the school year~~.

(b) The needs assessment shall include data concerning:

~~(1)~~ all public school jurisdictions in the State; ~~and~~

~~(2)~~ ~~all primary and secondary charter schools in the State.~~

(c) The needs assessment shall include:

(1) an assessment of the need for behavioral health services for each school district;

(2) a description of the types of school-based behavioral health services offered to children with behavioral health needs in each school district through:

(i) community-partnered school-based behavioral health programs;

(ii) school-based health centers; and

(iii) any other methods identified by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the State Department of Education;

(3) ~~methods of paying for services for children with behavioral health needs~~;

~~(4)~~ documentation of the number of children with behavioral health needs who are being provided services, including the type of services ~~and the conditions being treated;~~

(4) a description of the extent to which school-based behavioral health services are offered in the summer and during school breaks, in addition to the school year;

~~(5) the costs to provide services to all children who have needs;~~

~~(6)~~ the obstacles to providing services to all children who need them; and

~~(7)~~ (6) recommendations for removing obstacles to the provision of services to students with behavioral health needs.

(d) In conducting the needs assessment under this section, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the State Department of Education shall consult with local education agencies and other interested stakeholders.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

Approved by the Governor, May 25, 2017.