

# SENATE BILL 201

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By: **Senators King, Benson, Currie, Feldman, Kagan, Manno, Peters, Smith, Young, and Zucker**

Introduced and read first time: January 19, 2017

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Fire Drill Requirements – State Fire Prevention Code**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Superintendent of Schools to require certain county  
4 superintendents of schools to hold fire drills in each public school in accordance with  
5 the State Fire Prevention Code; and generally relating to fire drills in public schools.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

7 Article – Education

8 Section 7–408

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

12 Article – Public Safety

13 Section 6–206(a)(1) and (d)

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2011 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Education**

19 7–408.

20 (a) The State Superintendent shall require each county superintendent to hold a  
21 fire drill in each public school [at least 10 times each school year and at least once every 60  
22 days] **IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE FIRE PREVENTION CODE ESTABLISHED**  
23 **UNDER § 6–206 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) Each public school shall:

2 (1) Keep records of these fire drills; and

3 (2) Send a copy to the county superintendent.

4 **Article – Public Safety**

5 6–206.

6 (a) (1) (i) To protect life and property from the hazards of fire and  
7 explosion, the Commission shall adopt comprehensive regulations as a State Fire  
8 Prevention Code.

9 (ii) The State Fire Prevention Code shall comply with standard safe  
10 practice as embodied in widely recognized standards of good practice for fire prevention and  
11 fire protection.

12 (iii) The State Fire Prevention Code has the force and effect of law in  
13 the political subdivisions of the State.

14 (d) (1) The State Fire Prevention Code establishes the minimum requirements  
15 to protect life and property from the hazards of fire and explosion.

16 (2) If a State or local law or regulation is more stringent than the State  
17 Fire Prevention Code, the more stringent law or regulation governs if the more stringent  
18 law or regulation is:

19 (i) not inconsistent with the State Fire Prevention Code; and

20 (ii) not contrary to recognized standards and good engineering  
21 practices.

22 (3) If there is a question whether a State or local law or regulation governs,  
23 the decision of the Commission determines:

24 (i) which law or regulation governs; and

25 (ii) whether State and local officials have complied with the State  
26 Fire Prevention Code.

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