

HOUSE BILL 870

F1, M4

8lr3403

By: **Delegates Shoemaker, Ghrist, Luedtke, Patterson, Rose, and Tarlau**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2018

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Schools – Agricultural Education Programs**

3 FOR the purpose of encouraging each county board of education to implement an
4 agricultural education program that prepares students for successful careers and
5 informed choices relating to certain systems and for opportunities in
6 agriculture–related employment and higher education by providing instruction and
7 developing skills in certain areas through certain integrated classroom and
8 laboratory instruction, supervised agricultural experiences, and leadership
9 experiences and involvement in student organizations; and generally relating to
10 agricultural education programs in public schools.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Education
13 Section 4–111.3
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2017 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 4–111.3.

20 (a) Beginning in the 2018–2019 school year, each county board is encouraged to
21 implement an agriculture science curriculum specified in subsection (b) of this section in:

22 (1) At least one public high school in the county; or

23 (2) At least one career and technology education center in the county.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) The agriculture science curriculum implemented under subsection (a) of this
2 section shall be:

3 (1) Selected from existing curricula that have been developed by the
4 Department; or

5 (2) Developed by a county board and approved by the Department.

6 (c) **IN ADDITION TO IMPLEMENTING AN AGRICULTURE SCIENCE**
7 **CURRICULUM, EACH COUNTY BOARD IS ENCOURAGED TO IMPLEMENT AN**
8 **AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PROGRAM THAT PREPARES STUDENTS FOR:**

9 (1) **SUCCESSFUL CAREERS AND A LIFETIME OF INFORMED CHOICES**
10 **RELATING TO GLOBAL AGRICULTURE, FOOD, FIBER, AND NATURAL RESOURCES**
11 **SYSTEMS; AND**

12 (2) **A WIDE RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES IN AGRICULTURE-RELATED**
13 **EMPLOYMENT AND HIGHER EDUCATION BY PROVIDING INSTRUCTION AND**
14 **DEVELOPING SKILLS IN SCIENCE, MATH, TECHNOLOGY, COMMUNICATIONS,**
15 **LEADERSHIP, AND MANAGEMENT THROUGH INTEGRATED:**

16 (i) **CLASSROOM AND LABORATORY INSTRUCTION RELATING TO**
17 **AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND NATURAL RESOURCES;**

18 (ii) **SUPERVISED AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCES, WHICH MAY**
19 **INCLUDE SERVICE OR WORK-BASED LEARNING; AND**

20 (iii) **LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES AND INVOLVEMENT IN**
21 **STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS WITH AN AGRICULTURAL FOCUS.**

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
23 1, 2018.