

# HOUSE BILL 1600

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By: **Delegates Miele, Sydnor, Aumann, Bromwell, Brooks, Cluster, Ebersole, Grammer, Hettleman, Hill, Impallaria, Jalisi, Jones, Lam, Long, McDonough, Metzgar, Morhaim, Stein, Szeliga, West, and P. Young**  
Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2018  
Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore County Anti-Bullying Task Force**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Baltimore County Anti-Bullying Task Force; providing  
4 for the composition, chairs, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of  
5 the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the  
6 reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to compile data, study,  
7 and make recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to  
8 submit preliminary and final reports of its findings and recommendations to the  
9 Governor, the members of the Baltimore County delegation to the General Assembly,  
10 and certain other entities on or before certain dates; providing for the termination of  
11 this Act; and generally relating to the Baltimore County Anti-Bullying Task Force.

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

14 (a) There is a Baltimore County Anti-Bullying Task Force.

15 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

16 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland who represent Baltimore  
17 County, one representing each of the principal political parties, appointed by the President  
18 of the Senate;

19 (2) two members of the House of Delegates who represent Baltimore  
20 County, one representing each of the principal political parties, appointed by the Speaker  
21 of the House;

22 (3) two members of the Baltimore County Board of Education, appointed  
23 by the chair of the Baltimore County Board of Education;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (4) the Baltimore County Superintendent of Schools, or the  
2 Superintendent's designee;

3 (5) the Executive Director of the Baltimore County Public Schools  
4 Department of School Safety, or the Executive Director's designee;

5 (6) the Director of the Office of School Climate in the Baltimore County  
6 Public Schools Department of Academic Services, or the Director's designee; and

7 (7) the following members appointed by the Governor on or before August  
8 1, 2018:

9 (i) two representatives from the Teachers Association of Baltimore  
10 County;

11 (ii) one principal from a Baltimore County public high school, or the  
12 principal's designee;

13 (iii) one principal from a Baltimore County public middle school, or  
14 the principal's designee;

15 (iv) two representatives from the PTA Council of Baltimore County;  
16 and

17 (v) one Baltimore County Public Schools school resource officer.

18 (c) The Governor shall designate two members of the General Assembly, one  
19 representing each of the two principal political parties, as cochairs of the Task Force.

20 (d) Baltimore County Public Schools shall provide staff for the Task Force.

21 (e) A member of the Task Force:

22 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

23 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State  
24 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

25 (f) The Task Force shall:

26 (1) for the 2018–2019 school year, to the extent consistent with State and  
27 federal law, compile data on the number of incidents of bullying, cyberbullying,  
28 harassment, and intimidation in each public school in Baltimore County and the disposition  
29 of each incident;

30 (2) for the 2019–2020 school year, to the extent consistent with State and

1 federal law, compile data on the number of incidents of bullying, cyberbullying,  
2 harassment, and intimidation in each public school in Baltimore County and the disposition  
3 of each incident;

4 (3) study current disciplinary actions for students found responsible for  
5 violations of the Baltimore County Public Schools' bullying policy at the middle school and  
6 high school levels;

7 (4) study the range of possible disciplinary actions for students found  
8 responsible for violations of the Baltimore County Public Schools' bullying policy at the  
9 middle school and high school levels; and

10 (5) make recommendations regarding:

11 (i) whether Baltimore County Public Schools should prescribe a  
12 countywide disciplinary action for violations of the Baltimore County Public Schools'  
13 bullying policy;

14 (ii) anti-bullying strategies and anti-bullying programming,  
15 including the development of a countywide anti-bullying campaign;

16 (iii) options for victims of bullying who feel that their safety is  
17 threatened if they continue to attend their current school;

18 (iv) a procedure for providing immediate notification, consistent with  
19 State and federal law, to the parent of a victim of bullying or harassment and the parent of  
20 a perpetrator of an act of bullying or harassment in Baltimore County Public Schools;

21 (v) a procedure for reporting to the parent of a victim of bullying the  
22 actions taken to protect the victim in Baltimore County Public Schools;

23 (vi) a process for anonymous reporting by students to protect  
24 students from retaliation;

25 (vii) resources that Baltimore County Public Schools should make  
26 available to students who have been the target of bullying and to parents of those students;

27 (viii) electronic learning as an option for students found responsible  
28 for violations of the Baltimore County Public Schools' bullying policy and whose presence  
29 in school would be disruptive; and

30 (ix) any other findings of the Task Force.

31 (g) (1) On or before July 1, 2019, the Task Force shall submit a preliminary  
32 report of its findings on the matters listed in subsection (f)(1) of this section to the Governor  
33 and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the members of the  
34 Baltimore County delegation to the General Assembly.

1           (2) On or before December 1, 2020, the Task Force shall submit a final  
2 report of its findings and recommendations on the matters listed in subsection (f)(2)  
3 through (5) of this section to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the State  
4 Government Article, the members of the Baltimore County delegation to the General  
5 Assembly.

6           (3) The Task Force additionally shall submit the reports required under  
7 paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection to the following local entities:

8                   (i) the Baltimore County Executive;

9                   (ii) the Baltimore County Council;

10                  (iii) the Baltimore County Superintendent of Schools;

11                  (iv) the Baltimore County Board of Education;

12                  (v) the Teachers Association of Baltimore County; and

13                  (vi) the PTA Council of Baltimore County.

14           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
15 1, 2018. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 6 months and, at the end of  
16 December 31, 2020, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall  
17 be abrogated and of no further force and effect.