

# SENATE BILL 964

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CF HB 1144

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By: **Senator Rosapepe**

Introduced and read first time: February 18, 2019

Assigned to: Rules

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **County Boards of Education – Equal Access to Public Services for Individuals**  
3 **With Limited English Proficiency**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring certain county boards of education to fully implement a  
5 certain requirement to provide equal access to public services for individuals with  
6 limited English proficiency on or before a certain date; making conforming changes;  
7 and generally relating to county boards of education and equal access to public  
8 services for individuals with limited English proficiency.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Education  
11 Section 4–135  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

15 Article – State Government  
16 Section 10–1103(a)  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

20 Article – State Government  
21 Section 10–1103(b)  
22 Annotated Code of Maryland  
23 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

26 **Article – Education**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 4-135.

2 ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2022, EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL FULLY IMPLEMENT  
3 THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 10-1103 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE TO  
4 PROVIDE EQUAL ACCESS TO PUBLIC SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH LIMITED  
5 ENGLISH PROFICIENCY.

6 Article – State Government

7 10-1103.

8 (a) Each State department, agency, or program listed or identified under  
9 subsection (c) of this section shall take reasonable steps to provide equal access to public  
10 services for individuals with limited English proficiency.

11 (b) Reasonable steps to provide equal access to public services include:

12 (1) the provision of oral language services for individuals with limited  
13 English proficiency, which must be through face-to-face, in-house oral language services  
14 if contact between the agency and individuals with limited English proficiency is on a  
15 weekly or more frequent basis;

16 (2) (i) the translation of vital documents ordinarily provided to the  
17 public into any language spoken by any limited English proficient population that  
18 constitutes 3% of the overall population within the geographic area served by a local office  
19 of a State program OR A COUNTY BOARD, AS DEFINED IN § 1-101 OF THE EDUCATION  
20 ARTICLE, as measured by the United States Census; and

21 (ii) the provision of vital documents translated under item (i) of this  
22 item on a statewide basis to any local office OR A COUNTY BOARD, AS DEFINED IN §  
23 1-101 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE, as necessary; and

24 (3) any additional methods or means necessary to achieve equal access to  
25 public services.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
27 1, 2019.