

Chapter 430

(Senate Bill 465)

AN ACT concerning

Nonpublic Schools – Fire Drill Requirements – State Fire Prevention Code

FOR the purpose of requiring each nonpublic school in the State to hold fire drills in accordance with the State Fire Prevention Code, keep records of the fire drills, and send copies of the records to the State Board of Education; and generally relating to fire drills in nonpublic schools.

BY adding to

Article – Education

Section 7–408.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2018 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Public Safety

Section 6–206(a)(1) and (d)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2018 Replacement Volume)

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

Article – Education

7–408.1.

(A) EACH NONPUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE STATE SHALL HOLD FIRE DRILLS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE FIRE PREVENTION CODE ESTABLISHED UNDER § 6–206 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE.

(B) EACH NONPUBLIC SCHOOL SHALL:

(1) KEEP RECORDS OF THESE FIRE DRILLS; AND

(2) SEND A COPY OF THE RECORDS TO THE STATE BOARD.

Article – Public Safety

6–206.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(i) which law or regulation governs; and

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

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

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2019.