

# HOUSE BILL 1536

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By: **Delegates J. Lewis, Cain, D.M. Davis, W. Fisher, Healey, Henson, and Mosby**  
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2020  
Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Primary and Secondary Education – Title IX – Policies and Procedures**  
3 **(Hear Our Voices Act of 2020)**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Board of Education, on or before a certain date, to  
5 develop policies and procedures for reporting, administering, investigating, and  
6 resolving complaints related to incidents of sexual misconduct and Title IX;  
7 providing for the requirements of the policies and procedures; requiring the State  
8 Board to adopt regulations to implement this Act; and generally relating to sexual  
9 misconduct complaints and Title IX compliance.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Education  
12 Section 7–446  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Education**

18 **7–446.**

19 **(A) ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 2021, THE STATE BOARD, AFTER**  
20 **CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS, SHALL DEVELOP POLICIES AND**  
21 **PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING, ADMINISTERING, INVESTIGATING, AND RESOLVING**  
22 **COMPLAINTS RELATED TO INCIDENTS OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AND TITLE IX OF**  
23 **THE EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1972.**

24 **(B) THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (A)**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 OF THIS SECTION SHALL REQUIRE:

2 (1) THE DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP A DATABASE FOR  
3 ADMINISTRATORS TO UPLOAD SEXUAL MISCONDUCT COMPLAINTS; AND

4 (2) A PUBLIC SCHOOL TO:

5 (i) NOTIFY THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF A STUDENT WHO  
6 FILES A COMPLAINT RELATED TO SEXUAL MISCONDUCT;

7 (ii) COLLECT DATA ON SEXUAL MISCONDUCT COMPLAINTS AND  
8 REPORT THE DATA TO THE DEPARTMENT EACH YEAR; AND

9 (iii) INFORM STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF OF:

10 1. WHO SERVES AS THE TITLE IX COORDINATOR FOR  
11 THE SCHOOL; AND

12 2. HOW TO FILE A SEXUAL MISCONDUCT COMPLAINT.

13 (c) THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS  
14 SECTION.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
16 1, 2020.