

# HOUSE BILL 487

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HB 615/20 – APP

1lr1643

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By: **Delegate Solomon**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2021

Assigned to: Appropriations

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 11, 2021

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – School Construction – Pedestrian Safety Plans**  
3 **(School Pedestrian Safety Act)**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring certain county boards of education seeking State funds for  
5 the construction of a new school, or the renovation of or an addition to an existing  
6 school that would increase the capacity by more than a certain number of students,  
7 to submit a pedestrian safety plan to the Interagency Commission on School  
8 Construction under certain circumstances; requiring the Interagency Commission to  
9 review the pedestrian safety plans in consultation with the State Highway  
10 Administration; providing for the contents of a pedestrian safety plan; authorizing  
11 the Interagency Commission to adopt regulations to carry out this Act; defining  
12 certain terms; and generally relating to pedestrian safety plans for schools.

13 BY adding to  
14 Article – Education  
15 Section 5–324  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Education**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 **5-324.**

2 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
3 INDICATED.

4 (2) "HIGH-DENSITY COUNTY" MEANS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING  
5 COUNTIES:

6 (I) ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY;

7 (II) BALTIMORE CITY;

8 (III) BALTIMORE COUNTY;

9 (IV) HOWARD COUNTY;

10 (V) MONTGOMERY COUNTY; AND

11 (VI) PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.

12 (3) "LOW-DENSITY COUNTY" MEANS ANY COUNTY NOT LISTED IN  
13 PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

14 (B) (1) A COUNTY BOARD IN A HIGH-DENSITY COUNTY SEEKING STATE  
15 FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SCHOOL, OR THE RENOVATION OF OR AN  
16 ADDITION TO AN EXISTING SCHOOL THAT WOULD INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF THE  
17 SCHOOL BY MORE THAN 100 STUDENTS, SHALL SUBMIT A PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PLAN  
18 TO THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION AS PART OF THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL  
19 PROCESS.

20 (2) A COUNTY BOARD IN A LOW-DENSITY COUNTY SHALL SUBMIT A  
21 PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PLAN TO THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION AS PART OF THE  
22 REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS IF THE COUNTY BOARD IS SEEKING STATE FUNDS  
23 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SCHOOL, OR THE RENOVATION OF OR AN  
24 ADDITION TO AN EXISTING SCHOOL, IN A CITY WITH MORE THAN 10,000 RESIDENTS  
25 AND THE CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION WOULD INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF THE  
26 SCHOOL BY MORE THAN 100 STUDENTS.

27 (3) THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION SHALL REVIEW THE  
28 PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PLANS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE HIGHWAY  
29 ADMINISTRATION.

30 (C) A PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PLAN SHALL:

1           **(1) BE DEVELOPED IN COLLABORATION WITH:**

2                   **(I) THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OR**  
3 **EQUIVALENT AGENCY OF THE JURISDICTION LISTED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF**  
4 **THIS SECTION WHOSE COUNTY BOARD IS SUBMITTING THE PLAN; AND**

5                   **(II) THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION;**

6           **(2) IDENTIFY EXISTING AND POTENTIAL SAFE ROUTES FOR**  
7 **STUDENTS TO WALK OR BIKE TO THE SCHOOL;**

8           **(3) EVALUATE THE INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING SIDEWALK**  
9 **INFRASTRUCTURE, ALONG EXISTING AND POTENTIAL PEDESTRIAN OR CYCLIST**  
10 **ROUTES TO THE SCHOOL TO DETERMINE WHETHER INCREASED CAPACITY IS**  
11 **NECESSARY;**

12           **(4) ANALYZE EXISTING AND POTENTIAL SCHOOL ZONES, INCLUDING**  
13 **THE NEED FOR EXPANDING SCHOOL ZONES ON STATE AND COUNTY ROADS; AND**

14           **(5) INCLUDE DOCUMENTATION OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND**  
15 **INPUT RELATED TO THE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PLAN INCLUDING MINUTES FROM A**  
16 **PUBLIC HEARING AND WRITTEN COMMENTS.**

17           **(D) THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY**  
18 **OUT THIS SECTION.**

19           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
20 1, 2021.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.