

# HOUSE BILL 657

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By: **Delegates Guyton, Forbes, Jackson, Krimm, J. Lewis, Luedtke, Rose, Ruth, Saab, Shoemaker, Terrasa, and Valentino-Smith**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2022

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 13, 2022

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

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Schools – Standardized Behavioral Health ~~Screenings~~ Questionnaire for**  
3 **Students – Development and Implementation**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Consortium on Coordinated Community  
5 Supports to develop, in consultation with certain stakeholders, guidelines for  
6 developing a standardized behavioral health ~~screening~~ questionnaire to identify  
7 students with behavioral health services needs; requiring each behavioral health  
8 services coordinator to develop and implement a standardized behavioral health  
9 ~~screening~~ questionnaire based on the guidelines developed by the Consortium; and  
10 generally relating to the development of a standardized behavioral health ~~screening~~  
11 questionnaire for public school students.

12 BY renumbering

13 Article – Education

14 Section 7–447.1(i) through (o), respectively

15 to be Section 7–447.1(j) through (p), respectively

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

19 Article – Education

20 Section 7–447(b) and 7–447.1(a)(1) and (4)

21 Annotated Code of Maryland

22 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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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 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
2 Article – Education  
3 Section 7–447(c)  
4 Annotated Code of Maryland  
5 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

6 BY adding to  
7 Article – Education  
8 Section 7–447.1(i)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
12 That Section(s) 7–447.1(i) through (o), respectively, of Article – Education of the Annotated  
13 Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 7–447.1(j) through (p), respectively.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read  
15 as follows:

16 **Article – Education**

17 7–447.

18 (b) Each local school system shall appoint a behavioral health services  
19 coordinator.

20 (c) **(1)** In addition to the requirements under Subtitle 15 of this title, each  
21 behavioral health services coordinator shall:

22 **[(1)] (I)** Coordinate existing behavioral health services and referral  
23 procedures for behavioral health services within the local school system, including through  
24 a coordinated community supports partnership;

25 **[(2)] (II)** Working in collaboration with the local health department, the  
26 local department of social services, and other local entities that provide behavioral health  
27 services, including a community supports partnership, ensure that a student who is  
28 referred for behavioral health services obtains the necessary services in a timely manner;

29 **[(3)] (III)** Maximize external funding for behavioral health and  
30 wraparound services;

31 **[(4)] (IV)** Have at a minimum a master’s degree and behavioral health  
32 training experience in schools;

1           **[(5)] (V)** Provide the required behavioral health training under § 6–122 of  
2 this article; and

3           **[(6)] (VI)** Develop and implement a standardized ~~screening~~  
4 **QUESTIONNAIRE** to identify students with behavioral health services needs using an  
5 evidence–based measurement approach **BASED ON THE GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED**  
6 **UNDER § 7–447.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

7           **(2) THE STANDARDIZED ~~SCREENING~~ QUESTIONNAIRE REQUIRED**  
8 **UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(VI) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE GIVEN TO THE PARENT**  
9 **OR GUARDIAN OF EACH STUDENT WHEN THE STUDENT ENROLLS FOR SCHOOL AND**  
10 **EVERY YEAR THEREAFTER WHILE THE STUDENT IS ENROLLED IN THE LOCAL**  
11 **SCHOOL SYSTEM.**

12           **(3) THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES COORDINATOR SHALL USE**  
13 **THE QUESTIONNAIRE TO COMPLETE THE COORDINATOR’S DUTIES UNDER THIS**  
14 **SECTION.**

15           **(4) THE QUESTIONNAIRE, WITH THE PERMISSION OF A STUDENT OR A**  
16 **STUDENT’S PARENT, SHALL BE SHARED WITH:**

17           **(I) SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH STAFF, INCLUDING SCHOOL**  
18 **COUNSELORS, SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS, SCHOOL NURSES, AND SCHOOL SOCIAL**  
19 **WORKERS; AND**

20           **(II) A COORDINATED COMMUNITY SUPPORTS PARTNERSHIP**  
21 **UNDER § 7–447.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE THAT SERVES AND SUPPORTS THE STUDENT.**

22 7–447.1.

23           (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

24           (4) “Consortium” means the Maryland Consortium on Coordinated  
25 Community Supports established under subsection (b) of this section.

26           **(I) (1) THE CONSORTIUM SHALL DEVELOP GUIDELINES FOR**  
27 **DEVELOPING A STANDARDIZED ~~SCREENING~~ QUESTIONNAIRE TO IDENTIFY**  
28 **STUDENTS WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES NEEDS.**

29           **(2) THE GUIDELINES SHALL BE:**

30           **(I) DEVELOPED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE FOLLOWING**  
31 **STAKEHOLDERS SELECTED BY THE CONSORTIUM:**

- 1   1.    **ONE MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND OPTOMETRIC**  
2 **ASSOCIATION;**
- 3   2.    **ONE MEMBER OF THE STATE TRAUMATIC BRAIN**  
4 **INJURY ADVISORY BOARD;**
- 5   3.    ~~ONE MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND EDUCATION~~  
6 ~~COALITION;~~
- 7   ~~4.~~ **ONE MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF**  
8 **SCHOOL HEALTH NURSES;**
- 9   ~~5.~~ **4. ONE MEMBER OF THE DIVISION OF EARLY**  
10 **INTERVENTION AND SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES IN THE DEPARTMENT;**
- 11   ~~6.~~ **5. ONE MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND ACADEMY OF**  
12 **AUDIOLOGY;**
- 13   ~~7.~~ **6. ONE MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF**  
14 **NONPUBLIC SPECIAL EDUCATION FACILITIES;**
- 15   ~~8.~~ **7. ONE EXPERT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD TRAUMA AND**  
16 **DEVELOPMENT; AND**
- 17   ~~9.~~ **8. ONE EXPERT ON DATA PROTECTION;**
- 18   **(II) DEVELOPED USING AN EVIDENCE-BASED MEASUREMENT**  
19 **APPROACH; AND**
- 20   **(III) UPDATED EVERY 5 YEARS.**

21           SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
22 1, 2022.