

# SENATE BILL 421

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EMERGENCY BILL

2lr1302  
CF 2lr2304

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By: **Senators Rosapepe, Lam, West, Lee, Jackson, and Augustine**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2022

Assigned to: Finance

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Primary and Secondary Schools – Bus Driver Wages – Study**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor’s Workforce Development Board, on or before a  
4 certain date, to evaluate, study, and identify certain issues related to wages paid to  
5 certain bus drivers and report its findings to the governing body of each county and  
6 Baltimore City, each county board of education, including Baltimore City, the  
7 Governor, and the General Assembly; and generally relating to wages for bus drivers  
8 that serve primary and secondary schools.

9 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
10 That:

11 (a) In this section, “bus driver” means an individual employed to drive a bus that  
12 serves a primary or secondary school in the State, including an individual who is employed  
13 by:

14 (1) a county board of education, including Baltimore City;

15 (2) a person that contracts with a local school system to provide bus driving  
16 services at a public or private school in the State; or

17 (3) a private primary or secondary school in the State.

18 (b) On or before July 1, 2022, the Governor’s Workforce Development Board shall:

19 (1) evaluate the possibility of paying prevailing wage rates, which is the  
20 estimated hourly rate of wages paid in the locality as determined by the Governor’s  
21 Workforce Development Board, to bus drivers;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           (2)     study and identify the wages that must be paid to bus drivers to ensure  
2 that the vacancy rate for bus drivers is below 2% of the total number of bus drivers needed  
3 to serve primary and secondary schools in the State; and

4           (3)     report the findings under items (1) and (2) of this subsection to the  
5 governing body of each county and Baltimore City, each county board of education,  
6 including Baltimore City, the Governor, and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State  
7 Government Article, the General Assembly.

8           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency  
9 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has  
10 been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to  
11 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is  
12 enacted. It shall remain effective through June 30, 2023, and, at the end of June 30, 2023,  
13 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and  
14 of no further force and effect.