

# HOUSE BILL 878

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3lr2279

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By: ~~Delegate D. Jones~~ Delegates D. Jones, Palakovich Carr, Feldmark, Wilkins, Fair, and Wells

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2023

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 6, 2023

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

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Schools – Student Telehealth Appointments – Policy and Access**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring each county board of education to establish a policy to  
4 accommodate students who need to participate in telehealth appointments during  
5 the school day; requiring each public middle and high school to designate a space  
6 that meets certain requirements for student telehealth appointments; and generally  
7 relating to student access to telehealth in schools.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Education

10 Section 4–142

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2022 Replacement Volume)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Education**

16 **4–142.**

17 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “TELEHEALTH” MEANS A MODE OF DELIVERING**  
18 **HEALTH CARE SERVICES THROUGH THE USE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

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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 TECHNOLOGIES BY A HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER TO A PATIENT AT A DIFFERENT  
2 PHYSICAL LOCATION THAN THE HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER.

3 (B) EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH A POLICY TO ACCOMMODATE  
4 STUDENTS WHO NEED TO PARTICIPATE IN TELEHEALTH APPOINTMENTS  
5 SCHEDULED DURING THE SCHOOL DAY.

6 (C) THE POLICY ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION  
7 SHALL REQUIRE EACH MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL TO ~~DESIGNATE~~:

8 (1) DESIGNATE A SPACE FOR STUDENT TELEHEALTH APPOINTMENTS  
9 THAT:

10 ~~(1)~~ (I) IS A PRIVATE SPACE IN THE SCHOOL;

11 ~~(2)~~ (II) HAS INTERNET ACCESS;

12 ~~(3)~~ (III) INCLUDES AT LEAST ONE SEATING OPTION WITH A FLAT  
13 SURFACE AND ELECTRICAL OUTLET NEARBY TO ACCOMMODATE PLACEMENT OF A  
14 LAPTOP DEVICE; AND

15 ~~(4)~~ (IV) IS NOT A BATHROOM OR CLOSET; AND

16 (2) IMPLEMENT MEASURES TO ENSURE THE SAFETY AND PRIVACY OF  
17 A STUDENT PARTICIPATING IN A TELEHEALTH APPOINTMENT.

18 (D) EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL ENSURE THAT THE LOCAL SCHOOL  
19 SYSTEM:

20 (1) PUBLISHES THE STUDENT TELEHEALTH POLICY IN THE STUDENT  
21 HANDBOOK; AND

22 (2) ~~PROVIDES TRAINING FOR~~ MAKES SCHOOL PERSONNEL ~~ON~~ AWARE  
23 OF STUDENT TELEHEALTH POLICY OBJECTIVES AND REQUIREMENTS.

24 (E) ON REQUEST, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE TECHNICAL  
25 ASSISTANCE TO A COUNTY BOARD TO ESTABLISH THE STUDENT TELEHEALTH  
26 POLICY REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION.

27 (F) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO REQUIRE A  
28 SCHOOL TO CONSTRUCT AN ADDITION OR NEW SPACE TO A SCHOOL BUILDING TO  
29 PROVIDE A PRIVATE SPACE TO COMPLY WITH THE STUDENT TELEHEALTH POLICY  
30 REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
2 1, 2023.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.