

HOUSE BILL 837

F5, F1
HB 1247/23 – HRU

4r1596
CF SB 33

By: Delegates Wu, Arentz, Buckel, Crutchfield, Hartman, Hill, Hutchinson, Kaufman, ~~and Pasteur~~ Pasteur, Attar, Atterbeary, Ebersole, Fair, Feldmark, Griffith, Grossman, Henson, R. Long, Miller, Mireku–North, Palakovich Carr, Patterson, Roberts, Vogel, Wells, Wilkins, Wims, and Young

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2024
Assigned to: Ways and Means

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 23, 2024

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **More Opportunities for Career-Focused Students Act of 2024**

3 FOR the purpose of ~~requiring certain county boards of education to consider the pursuit of~~
4 ~~certain certificates, certifications, or apprenticeships as the equivalent of pursuing~~
5 ~~postsecondary education and provide a method for certain individuals to authorize~~
6 ~~the release of certain student information to certain apprenticeship sponsors and~~
7 ~~employers;~~ requiring each public high school to inform students of certain
8 employment and skills training opportunities in a certain manner; requiring a
9 county board to ~~pay for a student to take an apprenticeship entrance exam or~~
10 ~~industrial certification exam under certain circumstances~~ assist public high schools
11 in a certain task; and generally relating to career education ~~and apprenticeship~~
12 opportunities.

13 BY adding to
14 Article – Education
15 Section 4–142
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

18 ~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~
19 ~~Article – Education~~

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.



~~Section 7-203.1~~
~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
~~(2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)~~

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

Article – Education

4–142.

~~(A) IN THIS SECTION, “PLATFORM” MEANS A COLLEGE AND CAREER
READINESS SOFTWARE PROGRAM THAT HELPS SCHOOL SYSTEMS AND SCHOOLS
ALIGN STUDENT STRENGTHS AND INTERESTS TO POSTSECONDARY GOALS AND
CAREERS.~~

~~(B) A COUNTY BOARD THAT USES A PLATFORM SHALL:~~

~~(1) CONSIDER THE PURSUIT OF A VOCATIONAL CERTIFICATE, AN
INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION, OR AN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM AS THE EQUIVALENT
OF PURSUING POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION; AND~~

~~(2) PROVIDE IN THE PLATFORM A METHOD FOR A STUDENT OR A
STUDENT’S PARENT OR GUARDIAN TO CHOOSE TO AUTHORIZE THE RELEASE OF THE
STUDENT’S PERSONAL INFORMATION AND PLATFORM RESULTS TO:~~

~~(i) APPRENTICESHIP SPONSORS REGISTERED WITH THE
DIVISION OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND ADULT LEARNING UNDER § 11-405
OF THE LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT ARTICLE; AND~~

~~(ii) EMPLOYERS REGISTERED WITH THE MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR OR LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS.~~

~~(c) EACH PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL SHALL, IN THE SAME MANNER IN WHICH
THE SCHOOL INFORMS STUDENTS OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS,
INFORM STUDENTS OF EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES
AVAILABLE THROUGH:~~

~~(1) APPRENTICESHIP SPONSORS REGISTERED WITH THE DIVISION
OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND ADULT LEARNING UNDER § 11-405 OF THE
LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT ARTICLE; AND~~

~~(2) EMPLOYERS REGISTERED WITH THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT
OF LABOR OR LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS; AND~~

1 **(3) SCHOOLS LICENSED BY THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION**
 2 **COMMISSION THAT PROVIDE TRAINING, RETRAINING, OR ENHANCEMENT IN**
 3 **EMPLOYMENT SKILLS.**

4 **(B) WHEN INFORMING STUDENTS ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THIS**
 5 **SECTION, EACH PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL SHALL HIGHLIGHT OPPORTUNITIES IN**
 6 **HIGH-SKILLED CAREERS THAT DO NOT REQUIRE COMPLETION OF A COLLEGE**
 7 **DEGREE AND ARE IN HIGH DEMAND IN THE STATE.**

8 **(C) EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL ASSIST PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS IN**
 9 **COMPLETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.**

10 ~~7-203.1.~~

11 ~~(a) (1) [For fiscal years 2003 and 2004, the Department shall distribute grants~~
 12 ~~to Tier I counties, as defined in § 1-101 of the Economic Development Article, for the~~
 13 ~~administration of the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test to 10th grade students.~~

14 ~~(2)] For fiscal year 2005 and each subsequent fiscal year, the Department~~
 15 ~~shall distribute grants to each county for the administration of the Preliminary Scholastic~~
 16 ~~Aptitude Test to 10th grade students.~~

17 ~~[(b)] (2) Subject to the availability of funding in the State budget, the amount of~~
 18 ~~each county's grant shall be in an amount sufficient for the administration of the test to all~~
 19 ~~10th grade students in the county.~~

20 ~~(B) (1) (i) IN THIS SUBSECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE~~
 21 ~~MEANINGS INDICATED.~~

22 ~~(ii) "APPRENTICESHIP ENTRANCE EXAM" MEANS THE~~
 23 ~~TRADE SPECIFIC ASSESSMENT USED TO EVALUATE A STUDENT'S BASIC APTITUDE~~
 24 ~~BEFORE THE STUDENT BEGINS THE PRACTICAL AND TECHNICAL TRAINING PHASE~~
 25 ~~OF AN APPRENTICESHIP.~~

26 ~~(iii) "INDUSTRIAL CERTIFICATION EXAM" MEANS THE~~
 27 ~~INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED ASSESSMENT THAT DOCUMENTS A STUDENT'S~~
 28 ~~PERFORMANCE AND ACHIEVEMENT OF INDUSTRY STANDARDS AND RESULTS IN THE~~
 29 ~~RECEIPT OF A CERTIFICATE, A LICENSE, OR ANY OTHER CREDENTIAL.~~

30 ~~(2) IF A COUNTY BOARD PAYS FOR ANY STUDENT TO TAKE AN~~
 31 ~~ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMINATION, A PRELIMINARY SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE~~
 32 ~~TEST/NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP QUALIFYING TEST, OR A SCHOLASTIC~~
 33 ~~APTITUDE TEST, THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL PAY FOR A STUDENT TO TAKE AN~~
 34 ~~APPRENTICESHIP ENTRANCE EXAM OR INDUSTRIAL CERTIFICATION EXAM.~~

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
2 1, 2024.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.