

HOUSE BILL 608

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5lr1803
CF 5lr3192

By: **Delegates Taylor, Amprey, Boaf, Conaway, Crutchfield, Fennell, Harris, Harrison, Lehman, J. Long, Martinez, Ruff, Simpson, Taveras, Wells, Williams, and Woods**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Primary and Secondary Education – Student Immunization – Temporary**
3 **Admission Period**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring each county board of education to grant certain students
5 temporary admission to schools for a specified time frame if the parent or guardian
6 of a student is unable to provide proof of immunization under certain circumstances;
7 and generally relating to immunization requirements for public school students.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Education
10 Section 7–403(a)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

13 BY adding to
14 Article – Education
15 Section 7–403.1
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 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**

21 7–403.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) (1) In cooperation with the State Board and the Maryland State Medical
2 Society, the Maryland Department of Health shall adopt rules and regulations regarding
3 blood tests for lead poisoning required of children entering schools.

4 (2) [In] **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 7-403.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE, IN**
5 cooperation with the State Board and the Statewide Advisory Commission on
6 Immunizations, the Maryland Department of Health shall adopt rules and regulations
7 regarding immunizations required of children entering schools.

8 (3) These rules and regulations shall:

9 (i) Be adopted in compliance with the Administrative Procedure
10 Act;

11 (ii) Provide that any child may have the immunization administered
12 by his personal physician; and

13 (iii) 1. By September 2003, in areas designated as at risk for lead
14 poisoning, as determined under § 18-106 of the Health – General Article, when a child
15 enters a public prekindergarten program, kindergarten program, or first grade, require the
16 parent or legal guardian of the child to provide documentation from a health care provider,
17 on a form developed by the Maryland Department of Health, certifying that the child has
18 undergone blood testing for lead poisoning administered in accordance with the guidelines
19 of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the screening of young children for
20 lead poisoning: Guidance for State and Local Public Health Officials (November 1997) and
21 any subsequent guidelines; and

22 2. By September 2003, require a program or school to report
23 the name, last known address, and telephone number of each child for whom certified
24 documentation of a lead test is not provided under item 1 of this item, as determined by
25 regulation, to the local health department in the jurisdiction where the child resides.

26 (4) Any requirement for the administration of pertussis vaccine shall be
27 consistent with § 18-332(b) of the Health – General Article.

28 **7-403.1.**

29 **(A) EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL TEMPORARILY ADMIT A STUDENT TO**
30 **SCHOOL IF THE STUDENT'S PARENT OR GUARDIAN IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE PROOF**
31 **OF IMMUNIZATION WITHIN THE TIME FRAME REQUIRED BY REGULATIONS ADOPTED**
32 **UNDER § 7-403 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

33 **(B) A PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF A STUDENT GRANTED TEMPORARY**
34 **ADMISSION UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL PRESENT EVIDENCE OF**
35 **THE STUDENT'S APPOINTMENT WITH A HEALTH PROFESSIONAL OR LOCAL HEALTH**
36 **DEPARTMENT TO:**

1 **(1) RECEIVE A REQUIRED IMMUNIZATION;**

2 **(2) RECONSTRUCT A LOST RECORD; OR**

3 **(3) ACQUIRE EVIDENCE OF AGE-APPROPRIATE IMMUNITY ON A FORM**
4 **PROVIDED BY THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.**

5 **(C) THE DATE OF THE STUDENT'S APPOINTMENT WITH A HEALTH**
6 **PROFESSIONAL OR LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT MAY NOT EXCEED 60 CALENDAR**
7 **DAYS FROM THE DATE THE STUDENT IS GRANTED TEMPORARY ADMISSION.**

8 **(D) A PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF A TEMPORARILY ADMITTED STUDENT**
9 **SHALL PROVIDE EVIDENCE OF THE STUDENT'S REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS ON THE**
10 **NEXT SCHOOL DAY FOLLOWING THE STUDENT'S APPOINTMENT WITH A HEALTH**
11 **PROFESSIONAL OR LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT.**

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
13 1, 2025.