

HOUSE BILL 6

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(PRE-FILED)

6lr1426
CF SB 420

By: **Delegate Kerr**

Requested: October 29, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 18, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Institutions of Higher Education – Pregnant and Parenting Students –**
3 **Plan and Reporting**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Higher Education Commission to collect
5 certain data regarding the parental status of students from each public institution
6 of higher education in the State; requiring public institutions of higher education to
7 collect and report certain demographic data from students; requiring all public
8 institutions of higher education to adopt a certain plan for pregnant and parenting
9 students; altering the definition of “student data” to authorize the Commission to
10 share with the Maryland Longitudinal Data System certain data regarding the
11 parental status of certain students; and generally relating to pregnant and parenting
12 students at public institutions of higher education.

13 BY adding to
14 Article – Education
15 Section 11–409
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
19 Article – Education
20 Section 15–140
21 Annotated Code of Maryland
22 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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.



BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Education
Section 24–701(l)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

11–409.

(A) (1) THE COMMISSION SHALL COLLECT STUDENT–LEVEL DATA FROM EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE ON THE PARENTAL STATUS OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN EACH INSTITUTION.

(2) THE COMMISSION, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SHALL DEVELOP QUESTIONS THAT ALLOW EACH STUDENT TO IDENTIFY:

(I) WHETHER THE STUDENT IS A PARENT OR A LEGAL GUARDIAN, ACTING AS A PARENT OR A LEGAL GUARDIAN, OR EXERCISING CARE, CUSTODY, OR CONTROL OVER A CHILD OF ANY AGE;

(II) THE AGE OF THE CHILDREN FOR WHICH THE STUDENT HAS RESPONSIBILITY; AND

(III) THE TYPE OF CAREGIVING RESPONSIBILITIES THE STUDENT PROVIDES, INCLUDING WHETHER THE STUDENT:

1. IS A SINGLE PARENT; OR

2. SHARES PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES WITH SOMEONE IN THE SAME HOUSEHOLD OR A DIFFERENT HOUSEHOLD.

(B) (1) EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL PLACE THE QUESTIONS DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION ON ONE OR MORE FORMS THAT ARE USED BY THE INSTITUTION TO COLLECT DEMOGRAPHIC DATA FROM STUDENTS.

(2) EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL MAKE THE DATA COLLECTED UNDER THIS SECTION AVAILABLE TO THE COMMISSION IN

1 ACCORDANCE WITH THE FORMAT DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER
2 SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION.

3 (C) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS
4 SECTION, INCLUDING:

5 (1) ESTABLISHING A COMMON FORMAT AND TIME FRAME FOR THE
6 COLLECTION AND REPORTING OF THE DATA REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION; AND

7 (2) REQUIRING THE COLLECTION OF PARENTAL STATUS DATA TO BE
8 INCLUDED WITH THE COLLECTION OF OTHER DEMOGRAPHIC DATA.

9 (D) INFORMATION COLLECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION IS NOT
10 CONSIDERED TO BE A MEDICAL OR HEALTH RECORD FOR PURPOSES OF § 24-701(L)
11 OF THIS ARTICLE.

12 (E) ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2027, AND EACH SEPTEMBER 1
13 THEREAFTER, THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE SENATE BUDGET
14 AND TAXATION COMMITTEE, THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, ENERGY,
15 AND THE ENVIRONMENT, AND THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, IN
16 ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THAT
17 SUMMARIZES THE DATA COLLECTED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER THIS SECTION.

18 15-140.

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

20 (2) “Pregnant” IN THIS SECTION, “PREGNANT and parenting student”
21 means a student enrolled at a public [senior higher education] institution OF HIGHER
22 EDUCATION who:

23 [(i)] (1) Is pregnant; [or]

24 [(ii)] (2) Exercises care, custody, or control over a child[.

25 (3) (i) “Public senior higher education institution” means:

26 1. The constituent institutions of the University System of
27 Maryland;

28 2. Morgan State University; and

29 3. St. Mary’s College of Maryland.

30 (ii) “Public senior higher education institution” does not include:

(d) On or before ~~[August]~~ **OCTOBER** 1, 2026, each public [senior higher education] institution **OF HIGHER EDUCATION** shall post the plan adopted under subsection (c) of this section on the institution's website.

24-701.

(1) "Student data" means data relating to or impacting student performance.

(2) "Student data" includes:

- (i) State and national assessments;
 - (ii) Course-taking and completion;
 - (iii) Grade point average;
 - (iv) Remediation;
 - (v) Retention;
 - (vi) Degree, diploma, or credential attainment;
 - (vii) Enrollment;
 - (viii) Demographic data;
 - (ix) Juvenile delinquency records;
 - (x) Elementary and secondary school disciplinary records;
 - (xi) Child welfare data;
 - (xii) License, industry certificate, or vocational certificate;
 - (xiii) Personally identifiable information; [and]
 - (xiv) **PARENTAL STATUS; AND**
 - (xv) Student disability data by specific disability category.
- (3) "Student data" does not include:
- (i) Criminal and CINA records; [and]
 - (ii) Medical and health records; **AND**

1 **(III) PREGNANCY STATUS.**

2 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
3 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.