

SENATE BILL 420

F2

(6lr1427)

ENROLLED BILL

— Education, Energy, and the Environment / Appropriations —

Introduced by **Senator M. Washington**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

President.

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 *certain*
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; requiring public institutions of higher education
12 to collect and report certain demographic data from students; requiring all public
13 institutions of higher education to adopt a certain plan for pregnant and parenting
14 students; and generally relating to pregnant and parenting students at public
15 institutions of higher 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.

Italics indicate opposite chamber / conference committee amendments.



1 BY adding to
 2 Article – Education
 3 Section 11–409
 4 Annotated Code of Maryland
 5 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 7 Article – Education
 8 Section 15–140
 9 Annotated Code of Maryland
 10 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

11 *BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,*
 12 *Article – Education*
 13 *Section 24–701(l)*
 14 *Annotated Code of Maryland*
 15 *(2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)*

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

18 **Article – Education**

19 **11–409.**

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

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

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

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

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

33 1. IS A SINGLE PARENT; OR

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

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

7 (2) EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL MAKE
8 THE DATA COLLECTED UNDER THIS SECTION AVAILABLE TO THE COMMISSION IN
9 ACCORDANCE WITH THE FORMAT DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER
10 SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION.

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

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

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

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

21 ~~1. IS A SINGLE PARENT; OR~~

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

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

28 ~~(2) EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL MAKE~~
29 ~~THE DATA COLLECTED UNDER THIS SECTION AVAILABLE TO THE COMMISSION IN~~
30 ~~ACCORDANCE WITH THE FORMAT DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER~~
31 ~~SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION.~~

1 ~~(E)~~ ~~(B)~~ (C) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT
2 THIS SECTION, INCLUDING:

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

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

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

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

17 15-140.

18 (a) ~~(1)~~ In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

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

22 ~~(i)~~ ~~(1)~~ (1) Is pregnant; ~~or~~

23 ~~(ii)~~ ~~(2)~~ (2) Exercises care, custody, or control over a child;

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

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

27 2. ~~Morgan State University; and~~

28 3. ~~St. Mary’s College of Maryland.~~

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

1 ~~1. The University of Maryland Center for Environmental~~
 2 ~~Studies;~~

3 ~~2. The University of Maryland Global Campus; or~~

4 ~~3. The University of Baltimore~~ OF ANY AGE; OR

5 (3) SHARES PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES WITH SOMEONE IN THE
 6 SAME HOUSEHOLD OR A DIFFERENT HOUSEHOLD] OF ANY AGE; OR

7 ~~(3) SHARES PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES WITH SOMEONE IN~~
 8 ~~THE SAME HOUSEHOLD OR A DIFFERENT HOUSEHOLD.~~

9 (b) The General Assembly finds that all students at an institution of higher
 10 education in the State, regardless of their gender, shall enjoy freedom from discrimination
 11 of any kind, including pregnancy discrimination as described in Title IX of the Education
 12 Amendments of 1972.

13 (c) (1) Each public ~~[senior higher education]~~ institution OF HIGHER
 14 EDUCATION ~~OF HIGHER EDUCATION~~ shall adopt a plan regarding pregnant and
 15 parenting students that is consistent with Title IX of the federal Higher Education Act.

16 (2) The plan required under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall include:

17 (i) Referral to on-campus or off-campus services to assist regarding
 18 the availability of or eligibility for government assistance programs, including:

19 1. The Special Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
 20 for Women, Infants, and Children;

21 2. The Child Care Scholarship Program;

22 3. The Maryland Medical Assistance Program;

23 4. The Maryland Children’s Health Insurance Program; and

24 5. Any other programs, scholarships, or subsidies for
 25 pregnant and parenting students;

26 (ii) The provision of information about or referrals to resources
 27 regarding adoption services;

28 (iii) ~~The provision of information about or referrals to resources~~
 29 ~~regarding adoption services;~~

1 ~~(iii)~~ The availability of institutional accommodations for pregnant
2 and parenting students; and

3 ~~(iv)~~ ~~(III)~~ (iv) A referral network of on-campus and off-campus health
4 care service providers.

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

8 24-701.

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

11 (2) "Student data" includes:

12 (i) State and national assessments;

13 (ii) Course-taking and completion;

14 (iii) Grade point average;

15 (iv) Remediation;

16 (v) Retention;

17 (vi) Degree, diploma, or credential attainment;

18 (vii) Enrollment;

19 (viii) Demographic data;

20 (ix) Juvenile delinquency records;

21 (x) Elementary and secondary school disciplinary records;

22 (xi) Child welfare data;

23 (xii) License, industry certificate, or vocational certificate;

24 (xiii) Personally identifiable information; [and]

25 (xiv) **PARENTAL STATUS; AND**

26 **(XV) Student disability data by specific disability category.**

- 1 (3) “Student data” does not include:
- 2 (i) Criminal and CINA records; [and]
- 3 (ii) Medical and health records; AND
- 4 (III) PREGNANCY STATUS.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
6 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.