

SENATE BILL 612

F3

6lr3279
CF HB 1006

By: **Talbot County Senators**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2026

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 4, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Talbot County – Public Schools – School Schedule Options**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Talbot County Board of Education to operate schools
4 within the county using a certain school scheduling model that is exempt from a
5 certain requirement under certain circumstances; requiring ~~a school operating under~~
6 ~~a certain scheduling model to provide~~ the county board to offer certain employees an
7 opportunity to make up lost wages under certain circumstances; and generally
8 relating to public school scheduling models and the Talbot County Board of
9 Education.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article – Education
12 Section 7–103(a)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – Education
17 Section 7–103(f)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

20 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
21 Article – Education
22 Section 7–103(a), (f), and (g)

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 Annotated Code of Maryland
2 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)
3 (As enacted by Chapter 346 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2025)

4 BY adding to
5 Article – Education
6 Section 7–103(f)
7 Annotated Code of Maryland
8 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)
9 (As enacted by Chapter 346 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2025)

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

12 **Article – Education**

13 7–103.

14 (a) Except as provided in subsections (b), (e), (f), and (g) of this section, each public
15 school under the jurisdiction of a county board:

16 (1) (i) Shall be open for pupil attendance for at least 180 actual school
17 days and a minimum of 1,080 school hours during a 10–month period in each school year;
18 or

19 (ii) If normal school attendance is prevented because of conditions
20 described in subsection (b) of this section, shall be open for at least 1,080 hours during a
21 10–month period;

22 (2) Shall be open for pupil attendance a minimum of 3 hours during each
23 school day; and

24 (3) May not be open on Saturdays, Sundays, or holidays in order to meet
25 the 180–day or 1,080–hour requirement of this subsection.

26 (f) (1) In this subsection, “minimal hours of attendance” means the minimum
27 hours of attendance for the school year required under COMAR 13A.03.02.12, in effect on
28 July 1, 2025.

29 (2) **THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES ONLY TO THE ANNE ARUNDEL**
30 **COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE TALBOT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION.**

31 (3) Subject to the requirements of this subsection, [the Anne Arundel
32 County Board of Education] **A COUNTY BOARD** may elect to operate all of the schools
33 within the county using a scheduling model that eliminates early dismissal days to allow
34 for less than 180 school days if the minimal hours of attendance are met.

1 **(3) IF THE TALBOT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTS TO USE**
2 **A SCHEDULING MODEL THAT ELIMINATES EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS IN ACCORDANCE**
3 **WITH THIS SUBSECTION, THE COUNTY BOARD MUST USE THE SCHEDULING MODEL**
4 **FOR ALL SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTY.**

5 **(4) IF THE TALBOT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION USES A**
6 **SCHEDULING MODEL THAT RESULTS IN A SCHOOL IN THE COUNTY BEING OPEN FOR**
7 **~~LESS~~ FEWER THAN 180 DAYS, THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL OFFER SCHOOL**
8 **EMPLOYEES WHO RECEIVE PAY AT AN HOURLY RATE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE UP**
9 **THE LOST WAGES THROUGH OTHER DUTIES BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE NEXT**
10 **SCHOOL YEAR.**

11 **[(f)] (G)** Publicly funded half-day prekindergarten programs are not subject to
12 the requirements of subsection (a) of this section.

13 **[(g)] (H)** Notwithstanding any other law and subject only to this section, each
14 county board annually shall set the start and end dates of the school year for schools in the
15 county.

16 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

17 (a) On or before June 30, ~~2027~~ 2028, and on or before June 30, ~~2028~~ 2029, the
18 Talbot County Board of Education shall report to the State Board of Education and, in
19 accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on the
20 operation of schools during the preceding school year that used an alternative scheduling
21 model in accordance with Sections 1 and 2 of this Act.

22 (b) The reports required under this section shall include a summary of each day
23 a school operating under an alternative scheduling model was open and the number of
24 hours per day that the school was open with students in attendance.

25 SECTION 4. AND IT BE FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take
26 effect on the taking effect of the termination provision specified in Section 3 of Chapter 346
27 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2025. If that termination provision takes effect,
28 Section 1 of this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
29 abrogated and of no further force and effect. This Act may not be interpreted to have any
30 effect on that termination provision.

31 SECTION 5. AND IT BE FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions in
32 Section 4 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, ~~2026~~ 2027. It shall remain effective
33 for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, ~~2028~~ 2029, this Act, with no further action
34 required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.