

HOUSE BILL 56

J1, F5
HB 377/21 – W&M

(PRE-FILED)

2lr0868

By: **Delegate Bagnall**

Requested: October 20, 2021

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2022

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commission on Student Behavioral Health and Mental Health Treatment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Commission on Student Behavioral Health and Mental
4 Health Treatment; and generally relating to the Commission on Student Behavioral
5 Health and Mental Health Treatment.

6 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
7 That:

8 (a) There is a Commission on Student Behavioral Health and Mental Health
9 Treatment.

10 (b) The purpose of the Commission is to study, evaluate, update, and revise
11 guidelines for student behavioral health and mental health treatment and practices in
12 general, including school-based health centers.

13 (c) The Commission consists of the following members:

14 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
15 the Senate;

16 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the
17 House;

18 (3) one representative of the Maryland Mental Health Association,
19 designated by the Secretary of Health; and

20 (4) the following members, designated by the State Superintendent of
21 Schools:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (i) one representative of the Maryland Association of Student
2 Councils;
- 3 (ii) one representative of the Public School Superintendents'
4 Association;
- 5 (iii) one representative of the State Board of Education;
- 6 (iv) one representative who is a school administrator;
- 7 (v) one representative of the Maryland Assembly on School-Based
8 Health Care;
- 9 (vi) one representative who is employed as a school nurse;
- 10 (vii) one representative of the Maryland Association of School
11 Psychologists;
- 12 (viii) one representative of the Maryland Chapter of the National
13 Association of Social Workers;
- 14 (ix) one representative from a community-partnered school
15 behavioral health services program; and
- 16 (x) two representatives from different organizations that provide
17 behavioral health services primarily to racial or ethnic minorities.

18 (d) The Behavioral Health Administration shall provide staff for the Commission.

19 (e) (1) The Commission shall elect a chair from among its members.

20 (2) A member of the Commission may not receive compensation as a
21 member of the Commission, but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the
22 Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

23 (f) The Commission shall:

24 (1) study behavioral health treatment and practices for students dealing
25 with behavioral health and mental health issues, including scope of practice, age of consent
26 for services, types of service, and duration of treatment;

27 (2) investigate the unique behavioral health needs of students from
28 different racial and ethnic backgrounds dealing with behavioral health and mental health
29 issues, including differences by student racial and ethnic background in the provision of
30 behavioral health services, scope of practice, types of service, and duration of treatment;

31 (3) make recommendations on actions necessary to improve the current

1 practices of student behavioral health treatment, including actions specific to
2 improvements for students who belong to racial and ethnic minority groups and
3 improvements for service from school-based health centers;

4 (4) revise guidelines for student behavioral health treatment and practices
5 in school-based health centers; and

6 (5) research ways to coordinate school-based practices with health care
7 provider practices to improve treatment available for students who need behavioral health
8 or mental health treatment.

9 (g) On or before July 1, 2023, and December 1, 2023, the Commission shall report
10 its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the State Board of Education, and, in
11 accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
13 1, 2022. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2024,
14 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and
15 of no further force and effect.