

HOUSE BILL 487

F1
HB 615/20 – APP

1lr1643

By: **Delegate Solomon**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2021

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – School Construction – Pedestrian Safety Plans**
3 **(School Pedestrian Safety Act)**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring certain county boards of education seeking State funds for
5 the construction of a new school, or the renovation of or an addition to an existing
6 school that would increase the capacity by more than a certain number of students,
7 to submit a pedestrian safety plan to the Interagency Commission on School
8 Construction under certain circumstances; requiring the Interagency Commission to
9 review the pedestrian safety plans in consultation with the State Highway
10 Administration; providing for the contents of a pedestrian safety plan; authorizing
11 the Interagency Commission to adopt regulations to carry out this Act; defining
12 certain terms; and generally relating to pedestrian safety plans for schools.

13 BY adding to
14 Article – Education
15 Section 5–324
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 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 **5–324.**

22 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
23 **INDICATED.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2) "HIGH-DENSITY COUNTY" MEANS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING COUNTIES:

(I) ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY;

(II) BALTIMORE CITY;

(III) BALTIMORE COUNTY;

(IV) HOWARD COUNTY;

(V) MONTGOMERY COUNTY; AND

(VI) PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.

(3) "LOW-DENSITY COUNTY" MEANS ANY COUNTY NOT LISTED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(B) (1) A COUNTY BOARD IN A HIGH-DENSITY COUNTY SEEKING STATE FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SCHOOL, OR THE RENOVATION OF OR AN ADDITION TO AN EXISTING SCHOOL THAT WOULD INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF THE SCHOOL BY MORE THAN 100 STUDENTS, SHALL SUBMIT A PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PLAN TO THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION AS PART OF THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS.

(2) A COUNTY BOARD IN A LOW-DENSITY COUNTY SHALL SUBMIT A PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PLAN TO THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION AS PART OF THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS IF THE COUNTY BOARD IS SEEKING STATE FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SCHOOL, OR THE RENOVATION OF OR AN ADDITION TO AN EXISTING SCHOOL, IN A CITY WITH MORE THAN 10,000 RESIDENTS AND THE CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION WOULD INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF THE SCHOOL BY MORE THAN 100 STUDENTS.

(3) THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION SHALL REVIEW THE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PLANS IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION.

(C) A PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PLAN SHALL:

(1) BE DEVELOPED IN COLLABORATION WITH:

(I) THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OR EQUIVALENT AGENCY OF THE JURISDICTION LISTED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION WHOSE COUNTY BOARD IS SUBMITTING THE PLAN; AND

1 **(II) THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION;**

2 **(2) IDENTIFY EXISTING AND POTENTIAL SAFE ROUTES FOR**
3 **STUDENTS TO WALK OR BIKE TO THE SCHOOL;**

4 **(3) EVALUATE THE INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING SIDEWALK**
5 **INFRASTRUCTURE, ALONG EXISTING AND POTENTIAL PEDESTRIAN OR CYCLIST**
6 **ROUTES TO THE SCHOOL TO DETERMINE WHETHER INCREASED CAPACITY IS**
7 **NECESSARY;**

8 **(4) ANALYZE EXISTING AND POTENTIAL SCHOOL ZONES, INCLUDING**
9 **THE NEED FOR EXPANDING SCHOOL ZONES ON STATE AND COUNTY ROADS; AND**

10 **(5) INCLUDE DOCUMENTATION OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND**
11 **INPUT RELATED TO THE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PLAN INCLUDING MINUTES FROM A**
12 **PUBLIC HEARING AND WRITTEN COMMENTS.**

13 **(D) THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY**
14 **OUT THIS SECTION.**

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
16 1, 2021.