

HOUSE BILL 875

F1
HB 50/24 – W&M

5lr2999

By: **Delegates Acevero, Alston, Crutchfield, Hill, Martinez, Roberson, Ruff, Taylor, Toles, Williams, Woods, Woorman, Wu, and Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in Education**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in
4 Education to make recommendations to the State Board of Education and the State
5 Department of Education to further the discovery, interpretation, and learning of
6 the history, culture, and civics of the United States and Maryland and provide
7 equitable learning outcomes consistent with certain provisions of the Blueprint for
8 Maryland's Future; and generally relating to the Commission on History, Culture,
9 and Civics in Education.

10 BY adding to
11 Article – Education
12 Section 7–136
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Education**

18 **7–136.**

19 **(A) (1) THERE IS A COMMISSION ON HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVICS IN**
20 **EDUCATION.**

21 **(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION IS TO:**

22 **(I) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE BOARD AND THE**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



DEPARTMENT TO FURTHER THE DISCOVERY, INTERPRETATION, AND LEARNING OF THE HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVICS OF THE UNITED STATES AND MARYLAND; AND

(II) PROVIDE EQUITABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES REGARDLESS OF A STUDENT'S FAMILY INCOME, RACE, ETHNICITY, DISABILITY, OR OTHER CHARACTERISTICS CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE BLUEPRINT FOR MARYLAND'S FUTURE IN § 1-303 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(B) (1) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR FROM A LIST OF NOMINEES:

(I) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING MARYLAND'S INDIGENOUS AMERICAN TRIBES, WHICH INCLUDE THE LENAPE, NANTICOKE, PISCATAWAY, CONOY, POWHATAN, ACCOHANNOCK, SHAWNEE, SUSQUEHANNOCK, TUTELO, AND SAPONI TRIBES, NOMINATED BY THE MARYLAND COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS;

(II) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY, ONE OF WHOM IDENTIFIES AS TRANSGENDER, NOMINATED BY THE MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LGBTQIA+ CAUCUS;

(III) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND DISABLED COMMUNITY, NOMINATED BY THE SECRETARY OF DISABILITIES;

(IV) TWO MEMBERS WHO ARE TEACHERS OR HOLD A TEACHING LICENSE IN THE STATE:

1. ONE OF WHOM IS NOMINATED BY THE BALTIMORE TEACHER'S UNION; AND

2. ONE OF WHOM IS NOMINATED BY THE MARYLAND STATE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION;

(V) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND LATINO COMMUNITY, NOMINATED BY THE MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS;

(VI) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY, NOMINATED BY THE LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS OF MARYLAND;

(VII) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITY, NOMINATED BY THE MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE ASIAN-AMERICAN AND PACIFIC-ISLANDER CAUCUS;

1 (VIII) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, TWO
2 MEMBERS REPRESENTING HIGHER EDUCATION:

3 1. ONE OF WHOM IS NOMINATED BY THE CHANCELLOR
4 OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND; AND

5 2. ONE OF WHOM IS NOMINATED BY THE PRESIDENT OF
6 THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES; AND

7 (IX) THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, OR THE STATE
8 SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE.

9 (2) THE INDIVIDUALS CONSIDERED FOR NOMINATION BY THE
10 CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND UNDER PARAGRAPH
11 (1)(VIII)1 OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE INDIVIDUALS WHO REPRESENT
12 HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN THE STATE.

13 (C) (1) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE
14 COMMISSION SHALL REFLECT THE GENDER, RACIAL, ETHNIC, AND GEOGRAPHIC
15 DIVERSITY OF THE STATE.

16 (2) A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION SHALL HAVE
17 CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE OR EXPERIENCE IN DEVELOPING EDUCATION CONTENT
18 STANDARDS.

19 (D) (1) THE TERM OF A MEMBER IS 4 YEARS.

20 (2) THE TERMS OF MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED BY THE
21 TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ON JULY 1, 2025.

22 (E) THE COMMISSION MEMBERS SHALL ELECT A CHAIR FROM AMONG THE
23 MEMBERS.

24 (F) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE COMMISSION.

25 (G) A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION:

26 (1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE
27 COMMISSION; BUT

28 (2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE
29 STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

(H) THE COMMISSION SHALL:

(1) EXAMINE THE HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVICS OF THE UNITED STATES AND MARYLAND, INCLUDING:

(I) THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICAN INDIANS, LATINOS, AFRICAN AMERICANS, AND ASIAN AMERICANS;

(II) THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, AND QUEER INDIVIDUALS WITHIN THE MINORITY GROUPS;

(III) THE INTERSECTIONALITY OF SIGNIFICANT SOCIAL AND CULTURAL FEATURES WITHIN THE MINORITY COMMUNITIES;

(IV) THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND PERSECUTION OF RELIGIOUS MINORITIES;

(V) THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE MARYLAND DISABLED COMMUNITY; AND

(VI) THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WOMEN;

(2) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE BOARD REGARDING THE ADOPTION OF STANDARDS AND PROGRAMS THAT ACCURATELY REFLECT THE DISCOVERY, INTERPRETATION, AND LEARNING OF THE HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVICS OF THE UNITED STATES AND MARYLAND;

(3) MAKE ALL ACTIVITIES AND MATERIALS OF THE COMMISSION AVAILABLE ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE, INCLUDING:

(I) LIVE AND ARCHIVED VIDEO STREAMING OF EACH COMMISSION MEETING;

(II) MEETING AGENDAS, MATERIALS, AND NOTES; AND

(III) COMMISSION REPORTS; AND

(4) USE MULTIPLE COMMUNICATIONS METHODS TO PROVIDE UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS RELATED TO THE COMMISSION.

(I) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 30 EACH YEAR, BEGINNING IN 2025, THE COMMISSION SHALL REPORT ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE BOARD, THE GOVERNOR, AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE

1 GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

2 (J) ON OR BEFORE JULY 1 EACH YEAR, THE STATE BOARD SHALL:

3 (1) REVIEW THE COMMISSION'S FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS;

4 AND

5 (2) MAKE ANY APPROPRIATE CHANGES TO THE EDUCATIONAL
6 STANDARDS FOR PREKINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 12.

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the initial
8 members of the Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in Education shall expire as
9 follows:

10 (1) the eight members representing the indigenous American tribes,
11 Maryland Latino community, African American community, and Asian American and
12 Pacific Islander community in 2027; and

13 (2) the eight members representing the LGBTQIA+ community, disabled
14 community, teachers, and higher education in 2029.

15 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
16 1, 2025.