

HOUSE BILL 1522

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7lr3351

By: **Delegate Hill**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2017

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Needs Assessment for Student School Based Behavioral Health Counseling**
3 **Services Throughout the Year**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Mental Health and Hygiene and the
5 Maryland State Department of Education to conduct a needs assessment for student
6 school based behavioral health counseling services throughout the school year;
7 requiring the assessment to include certain matters; and generally relating to an
8 assessment of student school based behavioral counseling services throughout the
9 school year.

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
11 That:

12 (a) The Department of Mental Health and Hygiene and the Maryland State
13 Department of Education shall conduct a needs assessment for student school based
14 counseling services throughout the school year.

15 (b) The needs assessment shall include:

16 (1) all public school jurisdictions in the State; and

17 (2) all primary and secondary charter schools in the State.

18 (c) The needs assessment shall include:

19 (1) an assessment of the need for behavioral health services for each school
20 district;

21 (2) a description of the types of services offered to children with behavioral
22 health needs;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(3) methods of paying for services for children with behavioral health needs;

(4) documentation of the number of children with behavioral health needs who are being provided services, including the type of services and the conditions being treated;

(5) the costs to provide services to all children who have needs;

(6) the obstacles to providing services to all children; and

(7) recommendations for removing obstacles to the provision of services to students with behavioral health needs.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2017.