

HOUSE BILL 1340

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By: **Delegates Acevero, B. Barnes, D. Barnes, Bridges, Cain, D.M. Davis, Feldmark, W. Fisher, Ivey, Korman, Lopez, Mosby, Reznik, Wilkins, and Williams**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2020

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; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Commission;
5 prohibiting a member of the Commission from receiving certain compensation, but
6 authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Commission to
7 study and make recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the
8 Commission to report its findings and recommendations to the State Board of
9 Education, the Governor, and the General Assembly on or before a certain date each
10 year; requiring the State Board to review the Commission's findings and
11 recommendations and make certain changes to certain educational standards on or
12 before a certain date each year; specifying the terms of the initial members of the
13 Commission; and generally relating to the Commission on History, Culture, and
14 Civics in Education.

15 BY adding to
16 Article – Education
17 Section 7–125
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

22 **Article – Education**

23 **7–125.**

24 **(A) (1) THERE IS A COMMISSION ON HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVICS IN**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



EDUCATION.

(2) THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION IS TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE BOARD AND THE DEPARTMENT TO FURTHER THE DISCOVERY, INTERPRETATION, AND LEARNING OF THE HISTORY, CULTURE, AND CIVICS OF THE UNITED STATES AND MARYLAND.

(B) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

(1) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:

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

(II) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND LATINX COMMUNITY;

(III) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY;

(IV) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITY;

(V) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND LGBTQI+ COMMUNITY;

(VI) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING THE MARYLAND DIFFERENTLY ABLED COMMUNITY; AND

(VII) ONE MEMBER WHO IS A TEACHER OR HOLDS A TEACHING LICENSE IN THE STATE;

(2) TWO MEMBERS REPRESENTING HIGHER EDUCATION:

(I) ONE OF WHOM IS DESIGNATED BY THE CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND; AND

(II) ONE OF WHOM IS DESIGNATED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES; AND

(3) THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, OR THE STATE

1 SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE.

2 (C) (1) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE
3 COMMISSION SHALL REFLECT THE GENDER, RACIAL, ETHNIC, AND GEOGRAPHIC
4 DIVERSITY OF THE STATE.

5 (2) A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION SHALL HAVE
6 CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE OR EXPERIENCE IN DEVELOPING EDUCATION CONTENT
7 STANDARDS.

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

9 (2) THE TERMS OF MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED BY THE
10 TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ON JULY 1, 2020.

11 (E) THE COMMISSION MEMBERS SHALL ELECT A CHAIR FROM AMONG THE
12 MEMBERS.

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

14 (G) A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION:

15 (1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE
16 COMMISSION; BUT

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

19 (H) THE COMMISSION SHALL:

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

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

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

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

28 (IV) THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND PERSECUTION OF RELIGIOUS

1 MINORITIES; AND

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

6 (I) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 30 EACH YEAR, BEGINNING IN 2020, THE
7 COMMISSION SHALL REPORT ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE
8 BOARD, THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE
9 GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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

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

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

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

18 (1) the eight members representing the indigenous American tribes,
19 Maryland Latinx community, African American community, and Asian American and
20 Pacific Islander community in 2022; and

21 (2) the five members representing the LGBTQI+ community,
22 differently abled community, teachers, and higher education in 2024.

23 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
24 1, 2020.