

SENATE BILL 704

F1, S1

5lr2880
CF HB 981

By: **Senator Hester**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Department of Education and Department of Information Technology –**
3 **Evaluation on Artificial Intelligence in Public Schools**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Department of Education to conduct an evaluation
5 on the use and potential use of artificial intelligence in public schools; requiring that
6 the evaluation consist of a survey of local school systems and a review of available
7 systems that use artificial intelligence to assist with student learning; requiring the
8 Department of Information Technology to assist the State Department of Education
9 in performing its review; and generally relating to an evaluation of artificial
10 intelligence in public schools.

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

13 (a) In this section, “artificial intelligence” means a machine–based system that:

14 (1) can, for a given set of human–defined objectives, make predictions,
15 recommendations, or decisions influencing real or virtual environments;

16 (2) uses machine and human–based inputs to perceive real and virtual
17 environments and abstracts those perceptions into models through analysis in an
18 automated manner; and

19 (3) uses model inference to formulate options for information or action.

20 (b) The State Department of Education shall conduct an evaluation of the use and
21 potential use of artificial intelligence in public schools.

22 (c) (1) In conducting its evaluation, the State Department of Education shall
23 create a survey for local school systems that assesses:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(i) whether the local school system has a policy for the use of artificial intelligence by students, and if so, how the policy differs by student age, disability status, and English language learning status;

(ii) whether the local school system has a policy for the use of artificial intelligence as part of curricula, teaching materials, or lessons;

(iii) whether the local school system or any school within the school system currently uses a system that makes use of artificial intelligence to assist with student learning and, if so, which system is used and whether the system has been effective;

(iv) whether the local school system is adequately prepared for the use of artificial intelligence, including whether the school system currently has in place:

1. sufficient technological infrastructure;

2. staff capacity to implement artificial intelligence systems to assist with student learning; and

3. plans to address specific student needs using artificial intelligence;

(v) the local school system's identification and assessment of the most commonly used artificial intelligence systems in education; and

(vi) how the State Department of Education could best assist the local school system in its use of artificial intelligence to meet staff and student needs.

(2) On or before August 1, 2025, the State Department of Education shall distribute the survey required under this subsection to each county board of education, including Baltimore City.

(3) On or before October 1, 2025, each county board of education, including Baltimore City, shall return a completed survey to the State Department of Education.

(d) (1) In addition to the survey required under subsection (c) of this section, the State Department of Education's evaluation shall include a review of available systems that use artificial intelligence to:

(i) assist with student learning;

(ii) aid in the creation of curricula, lesson plans, and teaching material;

(iii) help with the evaluation of student work; and

(iv) support administrators and educators in the administration of schools.

(2) In completing its review of available artificial intelligence systems, the State Department of Education shall analyze the pedagogical value of available artificial intelligence systems and administrative aspects with which the artificial intelligence systems are able to assist.

(3) (i) The Department of Information Technology shall assist the State Department of Education in completing the review of artificial intelligence systems required by this subsection.

(ii) The Department of Information Technology shall assist with the review of artificial intelligence systems by evaluating the relative costs and benefits of:

1. the available artificial intelligence systems identified by local school systems under subsection (c) of this section;

2. any additional available artificial intelligence systems that meet the objectives listed under paragraph (1) of this subsection; and

3. the implementation of one or more statewide artificial intelligence systems for use in public schools throughout the State, in accordance with the policies and strategies developed by the Governor's Artificial Intelligence Subcabinet of the Governor's Executive Council.

(e) (1) On or before January 1, 2026, the Department shall provide an interim report on the results of the survey conducted under subsection (c) of this section to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

(2) On or before December 15, 2026, the Department shall issue a final report on the results of its evaluation to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2025. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 1 month and, at the end of June 30, 2027, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.