

# HOUSE BILL 566

F1, J1  
HB 1418/06 – W&M

71r2092

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By: **Delegates Kaiser, Bronrott, and F. Turner**  
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2007  
Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Student Health – Maryland School Health Blue Ribbon Panel**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland School Health Blue Ribbon Panel;  
4 providing for the membership, chair, and staff of the Blue Ribbon Panel;  
5 providing that a member of the Blue Ribbon Panel may not receive  
6 compensation but may receive certain reimbursement as provided in the State  
7 budget; providing for the duties of the Blue Ribbon Panel with respect to the  
8 study and evaluation of certain plans that relate to childhood health; requiring  
9 the Blue Ribbon Panel to submit certain reports to the Governor and General  
10 Assembly on or before certain dates; providing for the termination of this Act;  
11 and generally relating to childhood health and the Maryland Student Health  
12 Blue Ribbon Panel.

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
14 MARYLAND, That:

15 (a) There is a Maryland School Health Blue Ribbon Panel.

16 (b) The purpose of the Blue Ribbon Panel is to develop recommendations for  
17 a Maryland School Health Action Plan, which will include actionable measures to  
18 support and enhance health awareness among parents and students.

19 (c) The Blue Ribbon Panel consists of the following members:

20 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President  
21 of the Senate;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1                   (2)     one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of  
2 the House;
- 3                   (3)     the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's  
4 designee;
- 5                   (4)     the State Superintendent of Schools, or the State Superintendent's  
6 designee;
- 7                   (5)     one local board member, designated by the Maryland Association of  
8 Boards of Education; and
- 9                   (6)     the following members, appointed by the Governor:
- 10                   (i)     two representatives from among the following industries:
- 11                             1.     food processors;
- 12                             2.     food manufacturers;
- 13                             3.     the retail industry;
- 14                             4.     the soft drink industry; or
- 15                             5.     a member of the Restaurant Association or a  
16 restaurant owner;
- 17                   (ii)    two representatives from a nonprofit organization that  
18 works with obesity-related issues;
- 19                   (iii)   one physical fitness expert or member of the State Physical  
20 Fitness Council;
- 21                   (iv)    one pediatrician;
- 22                   (v)     one school nurse or school health officer;
- 23                   (vi)    one active member of a Parent Teacher Association; and
- 24                   (vii)   one psychiatrist or psychologist with expertise in eating  
25 disorders among children and youth.

1 (d) To the extent practicable, when appointing members to the Blue Ribbon  
2 Panel, the Governor shall assure that the membership of the Blue Ribbon Panel  
3 reflects the geographic, racial, ethnic, and gender diversity of the State.

4 (e) The Department of Education and the Department of Health and Mental  
5 Hygiene shall staff the Blue Ribbon Panel.

6 (f) A member of the Blue Ribbon Panel:

7 (1) may not receive compensation; but

8 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard  
9 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

10 (g) The Blue Ribbon Panel shall:

11 (1) study the Department of Education's 2006 Nutrition and Physical  
12 Activity Statewide Plan;

13 (2) evaluate the potential of the following measures as components of  
14 the Maryland School Health Action Plan:

15 (i) development of a media health promotion campaign targeted  
16 to children and adolescents and their parents and caregivers;

17 (ii) establishment of school-based childhood health nutrition  
18 education and physical education activities;

19 (iii) establishment of community-based childhood health  
20 nutrition education and physical activity programs that involve parents and  
21 caregivers;

22 (iv) coordination of State and federal efforts with local  
23 government agencies to incorporate strategies to prevent childhood obesity and  
24 promote childhood health into food assistance, health, education, child care, and  
25 recreation programs;

26 (v) examination of the role body mass index plays as a screening  
27 tool for school-aged children and adolescents;

28 (vi) sponsorship of periodic conferences to bring together experts  
29 in nutrition, exercise, public health, mental health, education, parenting, media, food  
30 marketing, agriculture, community planning, and other disciplines to consider societal

1 solutions to the problem of obesity and other health issues in children and adolescents  
2 and to recommend guidelines for public policy in the State;

3 (vii) development and implementation of community-based  
4 projects targeted to high-risk populations that consider behavioral and cultural  
5 factors;

6 (viii) development of training programs for health care  
7 professionals and school health coordinators; and

8 (ix) any other measures the Blue Ribbon Panel considers  
9 appropriate.

10 (h) (1) On or before June 1, 2008, the Blue Ribbon Panel shall submit an  
11 interim report of its findings and recommendations for a Maryland School Health  
12 Action Plan to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State  
13 Government Article, the General Assembly.

14 (2) On or before June 1, 2009, the Blue Ribbon Panel shall submit a  
15 final report of its findings and recommendations for a Maryland School Health Action  
16 Plan to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government  
17 Article, the General Assembly.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
19 October 1, 2007. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of  
20 September 30, 2009, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act  
21 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.