

HOUSE BILL 897

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9lr3169
CF SB 409

By: **Delegates McConkey, V. Clagett, Costa, Dwyer, George, Love, and Sophocleus**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2009

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Schools – Office Discipline Referrals – Accountability Policy**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Board of Education to develop a certain model
4 policy for accounting for certain office discipline referrals submitted in certain
5 schools by a certain date; requiring a certain model policy to include certain
6 information; requiring certain county boards of education to establish certain
7 policies to account for certain office discipline referrals submitted in certain
8 schools; requiring certain policies established by county boards of education to
9 include certain components; requiring county boards to develop certain policies
10 in consultation with certain groups; requiring certain county board policies to
11 include information on certain procedures; requiring county boards to submit
12 certain policies to the State Superintendent of Schools on or before a certain
13 date; defining a certain term; and generally relating to an accountability policy
14 by public schools for office discipline referrals.

15 BY adding to
16 Article – Education
17 Section 7–311
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2008 Replacement Volume)

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

22 **Article – Education**

23 **7–311.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "OFFICE DISCIPLINE REFERRAL" MEANS A
2 SCHOOL FORM THAT REFERS A STUDENT TO THE SCHOOL'S ADMINISTRATIVE
3 OFFICE TO ACT ON A DISCIPLINARY MATTER.

4 (B) (1) ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 2010, THE STATE BOARD, AFTER
5 CONSULTATION WITH AND INPUT FROM LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS, SHALL
6 DEVELOP A MODEL POLICY FOR ACCOUNTING FOR ALL OFFICE DISCIPLINE
7 REFERRALS SUBMITTED IN SCHOOLS.

8 (2) THE MODEL POLICY DEVELOPED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF
9 THIS SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE:

10 (I) A STATEMENT REQUIRING ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE
11 PROCESS FOR REPORTING OFFICE DISCIPLINE REFERRALS IN SCHOOLS;

12 (II) MODEL PROCEDURES THAT ACCOUNT FOR AND TRACK
13 EACH OFFICE DISCIPLINE REFERRAL SUBMITTED TO THE ADMINISTRATION IN A
14 SCHOOL; AND

15 (III) MODEL PROCEDURES FOR THE PROMPT
16 INVESTIGATION OF EACH OFFICE DISCIPLINE REFERRAL.

17 (C) (1) EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH A POLICY FOR
18 ACCOUNTING FOR ALL OFFICE DISCIPLINE REFERRALS SUBMITTED IN THE
19 SCHOOLS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE COUNTY BOARD.

20 (2) THE POLICY SHALL INCLUDE THE COMPONENTS OF THE
21 MODEL POLICY SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (B)(2) OF THIS SECTION.

22 (3) A COUNTY BOARD SHALL DEVELOP THE POLICY IN
23 CONSULTATION WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOLLOWING GROUPS:

24 (I) PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OF STUDENTS;

25 (II) SCHOOL EMPLOYEES AND ADMINISTRATORS;

26 (III) SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS;

27 (IV) STUDENTS; AND

28 (V) MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY.

29 (D) EACH COUNTY BOARD POLICY SHALL INCLUDE INFORMATION ON
30 THE PROCEDURE FOR ACCOUNTING FOR EACH OFFICE DISCIPLINE REFERRAL,

1 INCLUDING THE NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR AN EMPLOYEE OF THE
2 DEPARTMENT, DESIGNATED BY THE DEPARTMENT, WHO IS FAMILIAR WITH THE
3 ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES IN THE APPLICABLE SCHOOL SYSTEM.

4 (E) EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL SUBMIT ITS POLICY TO THE STATE
5 SUPERINTENDENT BY JULY 1, 2010.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 July 1, 2009.