

# HOUSE BILL 543

F1, J1

5lr1326

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By: **Delegate Taveras**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **County Boards of Education – Substance Abuse Treatment – Student**  
3 **Information Disclosure Policy**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring each county board of education to establish a certain policy  
5 requiring certain public schools to disclose a student’s directory information or  
6 personally identifiable information to a detoxification center or hospital for  
7 substance abuse treatment under certain circumstances; and generally relating to  
8 the disclosure of student information for substance abuse treatment.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Education

11 Section 7–455

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Education**

17 **7–455.**

18 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**  
19 **INDICATED.**

20 **(2) “DIRECTORY INFORMATION” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL’S NAME,**  
21 **ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER, DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH, AND DATES OF**  
22 **ATTENDANCE.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(3) “PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION” MEANS ANY**  
2 **INFORMATION THAT CAN BE USED TO IDENTIFY A PARTICULAR INDIVIDUAL,**  
3 **INCLUDING THE INDIVIDUAL’S NAME, SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER, DATE AND PLACE**  
4 **OF BIRTH, PARENT’S OR GUARDIAN’S INFORMATION, AND HEALTH RECORDS.**

5           **(B) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTIONS (C) AND (D) OF THIS SECTION, EACH COUNTY**  
6 **BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH A POLICY FOR THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE LOCAL**  
7 **SCHOOL SYSTEM TO AUTHORIZE THE DISCLOSURE OF A STUDENT’S DIRECTORY**  
8 **INFORMATION OR PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF**  
9 **SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FOR A STUDENT.**

10           **(C) (1) (I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS**  
11 **PARAGRAPH, A STUDENT’S DIRECTORY INFORMATION MAY BE DISCLOSED BY A**  
12 **PUBLIC SCHOOL TO A DETOXIFICATION CENTER OR A HOSPITAL FOR THE PURPOSE**  
13 **OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT IF THE STUDENT CONSENTS TO SUBSTANCE**  
14 **ABUSE TREATMENT UNDER § 20-102 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE.**

15                           **(II) A PUBLIC SCHOOL MAY NOT DISCLOSE A STUDENT’S**  
16 **DIRECTORY INFORMATION UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH IF A**  
17 **PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF THE STUDENT OPTS OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE**  
18 **PROCESS ESTABLISHED BY THE COUNTY BOARD UNDER SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS**  
19 **SECTION.**

20           **(2) A STUDENT’S PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION SHALL**  
21 **BE DISCLOSED BY A PUBLIC SCHOOL TO A DETOXIFICATION CENTER OR A HOSPITAL**  
22 **FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT IF:**

23                           **(I) THE STUDENT IS EXPERIENCING A HEALTH EMERGENCY**  
24 **EVENT UNDER § 8-501 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE; AND**

25                           **(II) THE DISCLOSURE OF THE STUDENT’S PERSONALLY**  
26 **IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION IS NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY**  
27 **OF THE STUDENT.**

28           **(D) THE POLICY ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION**  
29 **SHALL PROVIDE NOTICE TO PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OF STUDENTS IN THE LOCAL**  
30 **SCHOOL SYSTEM THAT:**

31                           **(1) A PUBLIC SCHOOL MAY DISCLOSE A STUDENT’S DIRECTORY**  
32 **INFORMATION TO A DETOXIFICATION CENTER OR HOSPITAL FOR THE PURPOSE OF**  
33 **SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT OF A STUDENT UNDER SPECIFIED CIRCUMSTANCES;**  
34 **AND**

1                   **(2) A PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF A STUDENT MAY OPT OUT OF THE**  
2 **DISCLOSURE OF A STUDENT’S DIRECTORY INFORMATION UNDER ITEM (1) OF THIS**  
3 **SUBSECTION AND THE PROCESS FOR OPTING OUT.**

4                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
5 1, 2025.