

CHAPTER 547

(House Bill 407)

AN ACT concerning

Safe Schools Reporting Act of 2005

FOR the purpose of requiring the State Department of Education to require a county board of education to report certain incidents against certain students; authorizing certain persons to file a report regarding certain incidents; requiring the State Department of Education to create a standard victim of harassment or intimidation report form; providing for the contents and distribution of a certain form; requiring a county board to submit summaries of a certain form to the State Department of Education on or before a certain date each year; requiring a county board to delete identifying information from certain forms under certain circumstances; requiring the State Department of Education to submit a certain report on or before a certain date each year to certain committees consisting of certain information relating to victim of harassment or intimidation reports filed with county boards; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to reporting incidents of harassment or intimidation of students at public schools.

BY adding to

Article - Education

Section 7-421

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2004 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

Article - Education

7-421.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, "HARASSMENT OR INTIMIDATION" MEANS CONDUCT, INCLUDING VERBAL CONDUCT, THAT:

(1) ~~CREATES, OR CERTAINLY WILL CREATE,~~ A HOSTILE EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT BY SUBSTANTIALLY INTERFERING WITH A STUDENT'S EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS, OPPORTUNITIES, OR PERFORMANCE, OR WITH A STUDENT'S PHYSICAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING AND IS:

(I) MOTIVATED BY AN ACTUAL OR A PERCEIVED PERSONAL CHARACTERISTIC SUCH AS RACE, NATIONAL ORIGIN, MARITAL STATUS, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, RELIGION, OR DISABILITY; OR

(II) THREATENING OR SERIOUSLY INTIMIDATING; AND