

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, today I have vetoed House Bill 610 - *State Department of Education and Department of Health and Mental Hygiene - Student Surveys - Workgroup*.

This bill requires the Maryland State Department of Education and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to establish a workgroup to evaluate and reduce the impact on schools and students of administering and taking various health-related surveys while collecting valid data that meet the legal data collection responsibilities of the departments. The workgroup may consult with various stakeholders and must study the feasibility of administering a single survey or coordinating the administration of multiple health-related surveys.

Senate Bill 9, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 610.

Sincerely,

Martin O'Malley  
Governor

House Bill 610

AN ACT concerning

Education State Department of Education and Department of Health and  
Mental Hygiene - Student Surveys - Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance  
System Survey Workgroup

FOR the purpose of requiring the State Department of Education ~~to collaborate with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to incorporate the provisions of the Maryland Adolescent Survey and the Youth Tobacco Survey into the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System survey; providing for certain exceptions to the authority of the Department of Education to omit certain survey questions; altering certain parental notification requirements; clarifying that certain surveys are part of the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System survey; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, certain county boards, and certain schools to cooperate with the Department of Education in administering the survey; defining certain terms; and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to jointly to establish a certain Workgroup; providing for the composition, meeting requirements, purposes, and duties of the Workgroup; authorizing the Workgroup to consult with certain groups or individuals; requiring the Workgroup to submit a certain report to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date in certain years; requiring the Department~~