

CHAPTER 405

(House Bill 536)

AN ACT concerning

Public Schools – Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System – Passive Parental Consent

FOR the purpose of requiring the State Department of Education to require local school systems to utilize passive parental consent before administering a certain survey; requiring local school systems to provide parents with certain statements and forms; requiring certain forms to be part of a certain card that requests request for certain information in certain years to certain students or the parent or guardian of certain students; and generally relating to the administration of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System survey in the public schools of the State.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Education
Section 7-420
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Many factors contributing to crippling or fatal injuries, asthma, obesity, and other health problems of children and youth are associated with environmental or behavioral risk factors; and

WHEREAS, Reliable data on risk factors contributing to child and adolescent deaths and illnesses enable public health personnel to develop programs to mitigate these factors; and

WHEREAS, The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have created the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), which is a tool to measure these factors and to monitor the effectiveness of risk reduction programs; and

WHEREAS, The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend the use of passive consent for the administration of the YRBSS survey, in order to obtain a completely representative and statistically valid number of survey participants; now, therefore,

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