

HOUSE BILL 1168

F3

3lr1788

By: **Delegates Fisher and T. Morgan**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2023

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Calvert County – Public High Schools – Class Rank System**
3 **(Calvert County Merit Restoration Act)**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Calvert County Board of Education, beginning in a
5 certain school year, to measure the academic achievement of students in public high
6 schools using a class rank system; requiring the class rank system to recognize the
7 valedictorian and salutatorian in a graduating class; submitting this Act to a
8 referendum of the qualified voters of Calvert County; and generally relating to a
9 class rank system in public high schools in Calvert County.

10 BY adding to
11 Article – Education
12 Section 4–142
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2022 Replacement Volume)

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

17 **Article – Education**

18 **4–142.**

19 **(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IN CALVERT COUNTY.**

20 **(B) BEGINNING IN THE 2025–2026 SCHOOL YEAR, THE CALVERT COUNTY**
21 **BOARD OF EDUCATION SHALL MEASURE THE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF**
22 **STUDENTS IN A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL USING A CLASS RANK SYSTEM.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(C) THE CLASS RANK SYSTEM SHALL PUBLICLY RECOGNIZE THE STUDENT**
2 **WITH:**

3 **(1) THE HIGHEST GRADE POINT AVERAGE IN THE GRADUATING CLASS**
4 **AS VALEDICTORIAN; AND**

5 **(2) THE SECOND HIGHEST GRADE POINT AVERAGE IN THE**
6 **GRADUATING CLASS AS SALUTATORIAN.**

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That before this Act becomes
8 effective, it first shall be submitted to a referendum of the qualified voters of Calvert County
9 at the general election to be held in November 2024. The County governing body and the
10 Calvert County Board of Elections shall do those things necessary and proper to provide for
11 and hold the referendum required by this section. If a majority of the votes cast on the
12 question are “For the referred law” this Act shall become effective on January 1, 2025, but
13 if a majority of the votes cast on the question are “Against the referred law” this Act, with
14 no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be null and void.

15 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions of
16 Section 2 of this Act and for the sole purpose of providing for the referendum required by
17 Section 2 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 2023.