

HOUSE BILL 1657

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8lr3485

By: **Delegate A. Washington**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2018

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Teachers and Teacher Preparation Programs – Maryland Reading Standards**
3 **Matrix – Established**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Department of Education, the University System
5 of Maryland, and the Maryland Higher Education Commission to develop a
6 Maryland Reading Standards Matrix on or before a certain date; requiring the
7 Maryland Reading Standards Matrix to reflect certain standards and research;
8 requiring the Department, the System, and the Commission to develop a certain
9 syllabus and timeline for certain faculty and to establish a certain accreditation
10 process for certain programs; requiring a certain course to include certain
11 components; requiring certain programs to use the Maryland Reading Standards
12 Matrix to develop certain courses and syllabi and deliver certain instruction; defining
13 certain terms; and generally relating to the Maryland Reading Standards Matrix.

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

16 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

17 (2) “Accrediting body” means a body that specializes in the knowledge and
18 practice that teachers of reading need to know and be able to do to teach all students to
19 read proficiently, including students with reading difficulties and dyslexia.

20 (3) “Pre–service educator preparation” is the education and training
21 provided to student teachers before they have undertaken any teaching.

22 (b) (1) On or before March 1, 2019, the State Department of Education, the
23 University System of Maryland, and the Maryland Higher Education Commission shall, in
24 consultation with literacy educators, dyslexia advocacy organizations, district–level
25 teacher training specialists and supervisors, the International Dyslexia Association, and
26 Decoding Dyslexia Maryland, develop a Maryland Reading Standards Matrix.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) The Maryland Reading Standards Matrix shall reflect the most recent
2 version of:

3 (i) the International Literacy Association Standards for the
4 Preparation of Literacy;

5 (ii) the International Dyslexia Association Knowledge and Practice
6 Standards for Teachers of Reading;

7 (iii) current research on the science of reading;

8 (iv) standards from the Maryland Reading Course Workgroup; and

9 (v) Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards.

10 (c) (1) On or before March 1, 2020, the State Department of Education, the
11 University System of Maryland, and the Maryland Higher Education Commission shall:

12 (i) develop a syllabus and timeline to provide professional
13 development courses for faculty who:

14 1. teach one or more of the required reading courses to
15 pre-service educators and faculty who supervise pre-service educator internships; and

16 2. supervise pre-service educator internships to ensure
17 faculty have the knowledge and practice to coach and mentor pre-service educators whose
18 internship includes students at risk for reading difficulties, including dyslexia; and

19 (ii) establish an accreditation process for all undergraduate and
20 graduate educator reading preparation programs in conjunction with an accrediting body.

21 (2) The course shall include all the components of the Maryland Reading
22 Standards Matrix.

23 (d) On or before July 1, 2020, all Maryland undergraduate and graduate
24 pre-service educator preparation programs shall use the Maryland Reading Standards
25 Matrix to develop reading courses and syllabi, and to deliver reading instruction to
26 pre-service educator candidates.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
28 1, 2018.