

Chapter 446

(House Bill 973)

AN ACT concerning

Public Schools – Maryland Youth Crisis Hotline – Distribution of Information

FOR the purpose of requiring each county board of education to provide certain students with the telephone number of the Maryland Youth Crisis Hotline in certain ways; ~~requiring certain schools to hold a certain school assembly at a certain time each year; requiring certain students and school personnel to attend a certain school assembly; requiring certain schools to send certain information about the Maryland Youth Crisis Hotline to the parents or guardians of certain students at a certain time each year;~~ providing that a county board is not required to reprint or reissue certain documents in use on the effective date of this Act in order to comply with this Act; and generally relating to the distribution of information about the Maryland Youth Crisis Hotline in public schools.

BY adding to

Article – Education

Section 7-430

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2008 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

Article – Education

7-430.

~~(A) EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL PROVIDE EACH STUDENT IN THE 6TH THROUGH 12TH GRADES WITH THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE MARYLAND YOUTH CRISIS HOTLINE BY:~~

~~(1) PRINTING THE TELEPHONE NUMBER PROMINENTLY IN THE SCHOOL HANDBOOK;~~

~~(2) PRINTING THE TELEPHONE NUMBER ON A STUDENT'S SCHOOL IDENTIFICATION CARD, IF PROVIDED; AND~~

~~(3) POSTING THE TELEPHONE NUMBER IN MULTIPLE PROMINENT LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT EACH SCHOOL BUILDING.~~

~~(B) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES TO A SCHOOL THAT ENROLLS STUDENTS IN THE 6TH THROUGH 12TH GRADES.~~

~~(2) EACH SCHOOL SHALL HOLD A SCHOOL WIDE ASSEMBLY DURING THE FIRST MONTH OF EACH SCHOOL YEAR TO PRESENT INFORMATION ON:~~

~~(i) THE AVAILABILITY, USES, AND PURPOSE OF THE MARYLAND YOUTH CRISIS HOTLINE; AND~~

~~(ii) HOW TO CONTACT THE MARYLAND YOUTH CRISIS HOTLINE.~~

~~(3) (i) ATTENDANCE AT THE ASSEMBLY CONDUCTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE MANDATORY FOR ALL STUDENTS AND SCHOOL PERSONNEL.~~

~~(ii) ANY STUDENT OR SCHOOL PERSONNEL ABSENT FROM THE ASSEMBLY SHALL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND A MAKEUP PRESENTATION.~~

~~(C) (1) EACH SCHOOL SHALL SEND TO THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF ANY STUDENT IN THE 6TH THROUGH 12TH GRADES INFORMATION ABOUT THE MARYLAND YOUTH CRISIS HOTLINE, INCLUDING:~~

~~(i) THE TELEPHONE NUMBER;~~

~~(ii) WHO MAY USE THE HOTLINE, INCLUDING ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS;~~

~~(iii) THE PURPOSE AND USES OF THE HOTLINE; AND~~

~~(iv) INFORMATION ON HOW A PARENT OR GUARDIAN CAN DISCUSS THE INFORMATION WITH THE CHILD.~~

~~(2) THE INFORMATION SENT TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF STUDENTS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE SENT EACH YEAR BEFORE THE SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS.~~

EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL PROVIDE EACH STUDENT IN GRADES SIX THROUGH TWELVE WITH THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE MARYLAND YOUTH CRISIS HOTLINE BY:

(1) PRINTING THE TELEPHONE NUMBER PROMINENTLY IN THE SCHOOL HANDBOOK; AND

(2) PRINTING THE TELEPHONE NUMBER ON A STUDENT'S SCHOOL IDENTIFICATION CARD, IF PROVIDED.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That a county board is not required to reprint or reissue school handbooks or student school identification cards in use on the effective date of this Act in order to comply with this Act.

SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2010.

Approved by the Governor, May 4, 2010.