

HOUSE BILL 1144

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9lr1988
CF 9lr3127

By: **Delegates Lehman, Pena–Melynk, Acevero, B. Barnes, Barron, Boyce, Charkoudian, Charles, Fennell, W. Fisher, Hettleman, Ivey, Jackson, Moon, Palakovich Carr, Proctor, Rogers, Solomon, Stewart, Turner, Valentino–Smith, Washington, Wells, and K. Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2019

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **County Boards of Education – Equal Access to Public Services for Individuals**
3 **With Limited English Proficiency**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring certain county boards of education to fully implement a
5 certain requirement to provide equal access to public services for individuals with
6 limited English proficiency on or before a certain date; making conforming changes;
7 and generally relating to county boards of education and equal access to public
8 services for individuals with limited English proficiency.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Education
11 Section 4–135
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

15 Article – State Government
16 Section 10–1103(a)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

20 Article – State Government
21 Section 10–1103(b)
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

24 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

2 **Article – Education**

3 **4–135.**

4 **ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2022, EACH COUNTY BOARD SHALL FULLY IMPLEMENT**
5 **THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 10–1103 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE TO**
6 **PROVIDE EQUAL ACCESS TO PUBLIC SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH LIMITED**
7 **ENGLISH PROFICIENCY.**

8 **Article – State Government**

9 10–1103.

10 (a) Each State department, agency, or program listed or identified under
11 subsection (c) of this section shall take reasonable steps to provide equal access to public
12 services for individuals with limited English proficiency.

13 (b) Reasonable steps to provide equal access to public services include:

14 (1) the provision of oral language services for individuals with limited
15 English proficiency, which must be through face-to-face, in-house oral language services
16 if contact between the agency and individuals with limited English proficiency is on a
17 weekly or more frequent basis;

18 (2) (i) the translation of vital documents ordinarily provided to the
19 public into any language spoken by any limited English proficient population that
20 constitutes 3% of the overall population within the geographic area served by a local office
21 of a State program **OR A COUNTY BOARD, AS DEFINED IN § 1–101 OF THE EDUCATION**
22 **ARTICLE**, as measured by the United States Census; and

23 (ii) the provision of vital documents translated under item (i) of this
24 item on a statewide basis to any local office **OR A COUNTY BOARD, AS DEFINED IN §**
25 **1–101 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE**, as necessary; and

26 (3) any additional methods or means necessary to achieve equal access to
27 public services.

28 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED**, That this Act shall take effect July
29 1, 2019.