

# HOUSE BILL 255

F1, M4  
HB 870/18 – W&M

9lr1729  
CF 9lr2451

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By: **Delegates Shoemaker, Adams, Buckel, Hornberger, Luedtke, Mangione,  
Patterson, Reilly, and Rose**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2019

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Schools – Agricultural Education Programs**

3 FOR the purpose of encouraging each county board of education to implement an  
4 agricultural education program that prepares students for successful careers and  
5 informed choices relating to certain systems and for opportunities in  
6 agriculture–related employment and higher education by providing instruction and  
7 developing skills in certain areas through certain integrated classroom and  
8 laboratory instruction, supervised agricultural experiences, and leadership  
9 experiences and involvement in student organizations; and generally relating to  
10 agricultural education programs in public schools.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article – Education  
13 Section 4–111.3  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Education**

19 4–111.3.

20 (a) Beginning in the 2018–2019 school year, each county board is encouraged to  
21 implement an agriculture science curriculum specified in subsection (b) of this section in:

22 (1) At least one public high school in the county; or

23 (2) At least one career and technology education center in the county.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) The agriculture science curriculum implemented under subsection (a) of this  
2 section shall be:

3 (1) Selected from existing curricula that have been developed by the  
4 Department; or

5 (2) Developed by a county board and approved by the Department.

6 (c) **IN ADDITION TO IMPLEMENTING AN AGRICULTURE SCIENCE  
7 CURRICULUM, EACH COUNTY BOARD IS ENCOURAGED TO IMPLEMENT AN  
8 AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PROGRAM THAT PREPARES STUDENTS FOR:**

9 (1) **SUCCESSFUL CAREERS AND A LIFETIME OF INFORMED CHOICES  
10 RELATING TO GLOBAL AGRICULTURE, FOOD, FIBER, AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
11 SYSTEMS; AND**

12 (2) **A WIDE RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES IN AGRICULTURE-RELATED  
13 EMPLOYMENT AND HIGHER EDUCATION BY PROVIDING INSTRUCTION AND  
14 DEVELOPING SKILLS IN SCIENCE, MATH, TECHNOLOGY, COMMUNICATIONS,  
15 LEADERSHIP, AND MANAGEMENT THROUGH INTEGRATED:**

16 (i) **CLASSROOM AND LABORATORY INSTRUCTION RELATING TO  
17 AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND NATURAL RESOURCES;**

18 (ii) **SUPERVISED AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCES, WHICH MAY  
19 INCLUDE SERVICE OR WORK-BASED LEARNING; AND**

20 (iii) **LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES AND INVOLVEMENT IN  
21 STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS WITH AN AGRICULTURAL FOCUS.**

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
23 1, 2019.