

Advocacy Resources

The National PTA website is a great resource for advocacy tools.

Advocacy Toolkit: <https://www.pta.org/home/advocacy/advocacy-resources/Advocacy-Toolkit>

Federal Legislation- Find out which bills in Congress National PTA supports, opposes and is monitoring: <https://www.pta.org/home/advocacy/federal-legislation>

Find your Maryland representatives:

<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/Webmga/frmmain.aspx?pid=legisrpage&tab=subject6&poptype=find&popid=>

Find your Federal House representatives:

<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

Contact info for our Federal Senate representatives is here:

https://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm?State=MD
(if you go to the Senate website, at the top left corner is a drop-down menu to select your state)

For Maryland legislation and information on current bills under review, the Maryland General Assembly webpage is a great resource: <http://mlis.state.md.us/>

Legislative Update- Bills supported by Maryland PTA

Link to testimony: http://www.mdpta.org/bridge_legislation.html (scroll down to "2018 Maryland PTA Testimony" section)

State

- 1) **HB 16- Community Colleges- Maryland Community College Promise Scholarships-** Establishes a Maryland Community College Promise Scholarship program for tuition at a community college of the applicant's choice.
- 2) **HB 154- State Board of Education - Membership Teachers and Parents-** Alters the membership of the State Board of Education by adding two regular members who are certified teachers and a parent of a student enrolled in a public school in the State. Parent member will be selected from a list provided by Maryland PTA.
- 3) **HB 226- Public Schools - Sprinkler Systems – Required-** Requires that sprinkler systems that meet certain requirements be installed in each public

school building in the State.

- 4) HB 251- Education - **Family Life and Human Sexuality Curriculum - Boundaries and Consent**- Requires a county board of education to provide age appropriate instruction on the meaning of "consent" and respect for personal boundaries as part of the Family Life and Human Sexuality curriculum in all grades in which the curriculum is taught in public schools in the county beginning in the 2018-2019 school year.
- 5) HB 315- State Department of Education – **Breakfast and Lunch Programs – Funding (Maryland Cares for Kids Act)**- Repealing the requirement that the State Board of Education adopt and publish standards for the administration of a subsidized feeding program; requiring the State to be responsible for the student share of the costs of breakfasts and lunches provided to students eligible for certain federal reduced price programs; prohibiting a county board of education from charging students eligible for reduced price meals; altering the calculation for the reimbursement for certain meals to county boards of education.
- 6) HB 378- State Department of Education - **Social Security Numbers of Students**- Prohibiting the State Department of Education from collecting, holding, or storing the Social Security numbers of current, former, or prospective students.
- 7) HB 393- Elementary School Students - **Daily Physical Activity (Student Health and Fitness Act)**- Requiring a public school student in elementary school to be provided a daily program of physical activity totaling 150 minutes each week to include physical education and developmentally appropriate, moderate-to-vigorous activity, including recess.
- 8) HB 547- Education - **Head Start Program - Annual Appropriation**- Requiring the Governor to include an appropriation of at least \$3,000,000 for the Head Start Program in each annual budget submission.
- 9) HB 870- Public Schools - **Agricultural Education Programs**- Encouraging each county board of education to implement an agricultural education program that prepares students for successful careers and informed choices relating to certain systems and for opportunities in agriculture-related employment and higher education.
- 10) SB 103- **Task Force to Study the Impact of Student Cell Phone Use in the Classroom**- Establishes the Task Force to Study the Impact of Student Cell Phone Use in the Classroom. The Task Force shall study 1) the impact of student cell phone use in the classroom on student learning; 2) the impact of student cell phone use in the classroom on teacher instruction; 3) whether there are any benefits associated with student cell phone use in the

classroom; and 4) any other matters relating to student cell phone use in the classroom that the Task Force deems relevant. The report is due by Dec. 1, 2018 to the Governor and General Assembly.

- 11) SB 161- Public and Nonpublic Schools - **Student Sickle Cell Disease Management Program**- Requires the State Department of Education and the Maryland Department of Health to establish certain guidelines for certain employees to utilize in the management of a student's sickle cell disease while the student is on the premises of a public or nonpublic school.
- 12) SB 205- **High School Credit Clarification Act of 2018**- Requires a county board of education to award high school credit to a middle school student if the State Department of Education has approved the course for the award of high school credit under the Maryland Virtual Learning Opportunities Program.
- 13) SB 236- State Board of Education - **Financial Literacy and Entrepreneurship Curriculum - Development and Implementation**. Requires the State Board of Education to develop curriculum content for a semester-long high school elective course in financial literacy and entrepreneurship.
- 14) SB 483- Public Schools - **Sprinkler Systems - Required**- Requiring that a sprinkler system that meets certain requirements be installed in each public school building in the State.