

# HB214: Juveniles - *Reportable Offenses*

Judiciary Committee

February 2, 2022

Sponsor: Delegate Parrott

# History

- 2018- Introduced as HB 1702
- 2019- Introduced as HB 867/ SB13

# Loudon County- a cautionary tale

- The 14-year-old student pictured here was raped by a 15-year-old student in May 2021
  - The pictured student committed forcible sodomy and forcible fellatio against the female
- The case was handled within the school
  - The school community was not informed.
  - The rape was not reported on the school district rape statistics.
  - The police were not called in



<https://www.dailywire.com/news/breaking-loudoun-rapist-sentenced-put-on-sex-offender-registry-for-life>

<https://www.dailywire.com/news/picture-of-loudoun-rapist-raises-questions-about-superintendents-statement>

# Loudon County- a cautionary tale

- LC Public Schools transferred the pictured student to a different school
  - **The school administrators were not informed of the rape.**
- In October 2021, the pictured student raped a female student at the second school
- There was a third female victim, but the circumstances of the rape have not been reported.



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# **In Maryland the same situation could happen**

- School Administrators are not informed of a student's reportable offenses at other schools
- Schools Administrators cannot appropriately plan to support students' safety

# What this bill does:

- If a student is arrested for a reportable offense or membership in a criminal organization
  - The Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) notifies:
    - The local superintendent and school principal of the student's arrest for a reportable offense
- The DJS would provide educational programming information to the student

# Benefits of this Bill

- Protects students
- Closes an important informational gap
- Schools Administrators will be able to know who is transferring and prepare accordingly
- Students would be able to maintain the resources they need across schools
  - Individual Education Plan which will include school incidents to give the transfer student the most help possible.

# Past Arguments Against the Bill

## 1. The bill would publicly label kids for life

- The information is only given to the local superintendent, school principal, and/or school security officer
  - Teachers and students would not and never would be informed
- The records would be destroyed when the student graduates or turns 22

## 2. Their prior criminal history would reduce their future educational opportunities.

- 70% of juvenile child sex offenders have between one and 9 victims; 20% have 10 to 40 victims (Juvenile Justice Bulletin, US Dept. of Justice)
- Schools need to be able to provide more resources to these at-risk juveniles
- With specific education, the juvenile can get the help they need and are significantly less likely to be a repeat offender.

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/hb0867/?ys=2019rs>

<https://www.d2l.org/child-sexual-abuse/statistics/>



**Now you know**

**Don't be responsible for  
another student being raped  
– Next time in Maryland.**

**Please Vote for HB 214**

Questions?