



**This Bill Analysis
reflects the contents
of the bill as it was
presented in
committee.**

HOUSE BILL 539: School Playgrounds Available to Public

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee:	House Judiciary IV, if favorable, Education - K-12	Date:	April 15, 2015
Introduced by:	Reps. Bryan, Bradford, B. Brown, Szoka	Prepared by:	Kara McCraw*
Analysis of:	First Edition		Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: *House Bill 539 would authorize local boards of education to make outdoor school property available to the public for recreational purposes.*

CURRENT LAW: Under current law, local boards of education may adopt rules and regulations under which they may enter into agreements permitting non-school groups to use most school real and personal property for non-school purposes so long as such use is consistent with the proper preservation and care of the public school property. Current law provides that liability does not attach to any board of education, individually or collectively, for personal injury suffered by reason of the use of school property used under the agreement.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 539 would authorize local boards of education to make outdoor school property available to the public for recreational purposes, subject to terms and conditions each board deems appropriate, (i) when not otherwise being used for school purposes and (ii) so long as such use is consistent with the proper preservation and care of the school property.

The bill would provide that liability does not attach to any board of education or any individual board member for personal injury suffered by reason of the use of school property.

The bill also makes a conforming change.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act is effective when it becomes law.

**This summary was substantially contributed to by Denise Adams, Legislative Analyst.*

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