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BILL NO.: **HB 1**

TITLE: Built to Learn Act of 2020

SPONSOR: The Speaker

COMMITTEE: Budget and Taxation

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 19, 2020

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 1 – Built to Learn Act of 2020. Baltimore County’s Schools for Our Future program was launched in 2011 with the intention of spending \$1.6 billion on critically needed school renovation and construction projects. The goal of the program was to eliminate overcrowding in elementary schools and modernize our facilities. We have made great strides because of this program. In Baltimore County, we have built 9 new schools, made additions at 7 schools and air conditioned 59 schools.

But the work is far from done. The County has budgeted \$242 million in shovel-ready construction projects which cannot move forward without essential investments from the state. With some of the oldest school stock in the state, the Built to Learn Act would provide \$420 million needed for completing these critical projects.

As a former educator, County Executive Olszewski has dedicated his time in office to modernizing Baltimore County’s schools and building a better future for our residents. By supporting the funding for these crucial projects, this bill would bring significant benefits for students, educators, families, and communities in Baltimore County and across the State.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 1. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Chief Legislative Officer, 443-900-6582.