

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential

850 Hungerford Drive ◆ Room 123 ◆ Rockville, Maryland 20850

BILL: SB0791 (Cross filed with HB1298)

TITLE: County Boards of Education - Pregnant and Parenting Students - Policies

and Reports

DATE: 3/3/2020 POSITION: SUPPORT

COMMITTEE: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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The Montgomery County Board of Education (Board) supports SB0791.

This bill would require school districts to develop regulations to:

- Identify a coordinator responsible for assisting pregnant and parenting students with accessing accommodations and supports,
- Collect and report data on the number of pregnant and parenting students in the district, including graduation rates, diploma type, and length of time in school,
- Provide accommodations, including transportation, to facilitate student's continued educational progress, and private space to lactate,
- Address a pregnant or parenting student's absences as legal if related to their pregnancy or tasks related to parenting of their child (e.g., newborn check-ups).

Montgomery County Public Schools Regulation IOE-RA, Guidelines for the Continuing Education of Pregnant and Parenting Students, revised in February 2018 and amended in September 2018, aligns with the majority of the points outlined in SB0791.

Regulation IOE-RA would require minimal amendments to operationalize the role of the coordinator, data collection requirements, and to explicitly reference space (and excused absences) for parenting students to lactate.

For these reasons, the Board **supports** this legislation and urges a favorable report.