

The County Commissioners of Kent County

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February 18, 2020

The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky, Chair
Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

Re: **SUPPORT** Senate Bill 0794 / House Bill 0603 – County Boards of Education –
Establishing Regional Career and Technical Education Schools – Authority

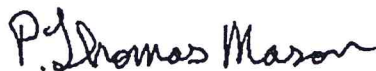
Dear Chair Pinsky and Members of the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
Committee:

The County Commissioners of Kent County, Maryland fully support Senate Bill 0794. As a rural community with numerous jobs based in the trades industry, Kent County supports a robust technical high school that would serve the five-county region of Caroline, Dorchester, Queen Anne's, Talbot, and Kent. As a small district, Kent County cannot afford students with the luxury of an array of educational opportunities that are on par with larger jurisdictions. To partner with neighboring jurisdictions would enable Kent County the advantage of economies of scale. Our students would have access to world class, specialized instruction in fields that we cannot currently offer. This not only benefits the career readiness of our students upon graduation but also fills a workforce need that is currently unmet. This legislation does not negatively affect our current public-school enrollment numbers and yet expand the offerings to our students.

Given the foregoing, the County Commissioners of Kent County, Maryland respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 0794.

Very truly yours,

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND


P. Thomas Mason, President

