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**BILL NO.:**           **HB 202**

**TITLE:**             Restorative Schools Fund and Grants - Establishment

**SPONSOR:**         Delegate Cain

**COMMITTEE:**      Ways and Means

**POSITION:**        **SUPPORT**

**DATE:**             January 30, 2020

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 202 – Restorative Schools Fund and Grants - Establishment. This bill establishes the Restorative Schools Fund and a grant program to finance the implementation and evaluation of restorative approaches that build and sustain positive learning communities.

As a former educator, County Executive Olszewski is passionate about finding new and innovative ways to engage our students. The “restorative approach” model of student discipline would provide Baltimore County students with a relationship-centered experience that emphasizes repairing relationships that have been affected by problem behaviors, and sets clear behavioral expectations for the student going forward. This shift from a more punitive system of student discipline can turn unpleasant interactions into teachable moments and can result in marked improvements in student behavior overall. The Baltimore County Public School system would greatly benefit from State funding to implement restorative approach programs in its schools.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 26. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Chief Legislative Officer, at 443-900-6582.