



**HB769 EDUCATION - HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS - GRADUATION AND ATTENDANCE CREDIT
FOR VOCATIONAL TRAINING**

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WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

OPPOSE

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Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) opposes **HB769 Education - High School Students - Graduation and Attendance Credit for Vocational Training**. This bill authorizes a local board of education to award credit to a high school student toward a high school diploma or a postsecondary credential, or both, for one vocational course per semester in a career and technical education (CTE) program approved by the local board. In addition, a local board of education may count toward high school attendance the time a student spends during vocational training in a CTE program approved by the local board.

This bill infringes on local authority and is unnecessary. Schools systems already award credit to high school students for participating in CTE programs, apprenticeships, and internships. For example, AACPS maintains and operates two robust CTE programs in dedicated space at the Centers for Applied Technology North and South. The AACPS Career and Technology Education Office provides leadership, support, and resources for all courses and programs in the areas of Applied Technology, Business Education, Computer Science, Family and Consumer Sciences, and Technology Education. CTE programs offer students an opportunity to get a head start on their career as well as post-secondary education. These programs are in high demand by AACPS students and the business community.

In addition, SB133 has the unintended consequence of limiting the amount of credits awarded for CTE programs, apprenticeships, and internships. As drafted, a high school student would be limited to one credit per semester – such a limitation does not currently exist.

Accordingly, AACPS respectfully requests an **UNFAVORABLE** committee report on HB769.