

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential

850 Hungerford Drive ◆ Room 123 ◆ Rockville, Maryland 20850

BILL: HB0394

TITLE: Public Schools - Fees for Summer School Courses - Prohibition

DATE: 3/24/2021 POSITION: OPPOSE

COMMITTEE: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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The Montgomery County Board of Education (Board) opposes HB0394.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, MCPS supported waiving a certain portion of student fees for summer school courses on a sliding scale based on need. In the summer of 2020, as a result of the pandemic, MCPS provided summer school programs to all students who needed recovery at no cost and will likely do the same in the summer of 2021.

Prior to the pandemic (FY 2020) in MCPS:

- Student tuition for summer school was \$300 (full cost). Waiver rates were \$120 and \$85 for general education classes and \$140 and \$40 for ESOL classes, based on financial need.
- Operating expenses anticipated for summer school for FY 2020: \$3,331,035
- Revenue expected from tuition paid for credit bearing courses: \$884,294
- \$596,810 total amount waived based on reduced fee eligibility

MCPS believes this should be a local decision and determined by individual school boards based on their own needs and data.

For these reasons, the Board **Opposes** this legislation and urges a unfavorable report.