



Mohammed Choudhury
State Superintendent of Schools

BILL: House Bill 630 **DATE:** February 17, 2022

SUBJECT: Education – Public High Schools – Financial Literacy Pilot Program - Establishment **COMMITTEE:** Ways and Means

POSITION: Letter of Information

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EXPLANATION:

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) respectfully submits this information regarding **House Bill 630 – Education – Public High Schools – Financial Literacy Pilot Program - Establishment**, which would require MSDE to establish a Financial Literacy Pilot Program, develop curriculum for the pilot, and report to the General Assembly on the status and results of the pilot.

MSDE is supportive of ensuring that all students experience financial literacy education. The Department agrees that financial literacy content identified in HB 630 is necessary for students to learn. The State has current financial literacy standards, identified in [Code of Maryland Regulations 13A.04.06](#), which address some of the financial literacy content required in the legislation. Local school systems are required to provide an instructional program in personal financial literacy in elementary, middle, and high school.

MSDE regularly shares curriculum resources and coordinates professional learning experiences focused on financial literacy content with financial literacy supervisors in all 24 school systems. Annually, MSDE publishes a report describing the implementation of financial literacy in school systems. Additionally, MSDE partners with the CASH Campaign of Maryland and Maryland Council on Economic Education to present the [Financial Education and Capability Awards](#). The award is given annually to recognize the dedication and success of public school teachers and community champions in the implementation of financial literacy education with students. Each April, MSDE partners with local school systems and businesses to celebrate Financial Literacy Month.

As local school systems update their curriculum in accordance with revised standards and frameworks as a result of the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future, additional legislatively prescribed curricular mandates at this time could create implementation-based inefficiencies due to the nearly complete revision of curriculum already charged within the Blueprint. MSDE appreciates the flexibility and limited scope applied within this bill.

We respectfully request that you consider this information as you deliberate **HB 630**. Please contact Ary Amerikaner, at 410-767-0090, or ary.amerikander@maryland.gov, for any additional information.