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TO: The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

FROM: Hannibal G. Williams II Kemerer
Chief Counsel, Legislative Affairs, Office of the Attorney General

RE: SB551 Education – Service Year Option Program – Establishment (Serving Every Region Through Vocational Exploration Act of 2023) (Support)

The Office of the Attorney General requests a favorable report on Senate Bill 551, Governor Moore's Serving Every Region Through Vocational Exploration Act of 2023. Senate Bill 551 creates a service year option for Maryland high school graduates. Participants will receive career exploration and mentoring support while serving their communities through partnerships with nonprofit organizations. Senate Bill 551's flexibility allows for programs that appeal to a wide variety of young people with an expansive range of career interests. The resulting program will serve as a springboard for participants to enter post-service year employment, higher education, or apprenticeships while cultivating a culture of service in communities across the State.

For all the foregoing reasons, the Office of the Attorney General requests a favorable report on Senate Bill 551.

cc: Committee Members

This bill letter is a statement of the Office of Attorney General's policy position on the referenced pending legislation. For a legal or constitutional analysis of the bill, Members of the Senate and Senate should consult with the Counsel to the General Assembly, Sandy Brantley. She can be reached at 410-946-5600 or sbrantley@oag.state.md.us.