

**HB1440\_HoCo\_Delegation\_FAV\_S.pdf**

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Position: FAV

SENATOR CLARENCE K. LAM  
SENATE CHAIR

MILLER SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
11 BLADEN STREET, ROOM 420  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

SENATOR GUY GUZZONE  
SENATOR KATIE FRY HESTER



THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401  
HOWARD COUNTY DELEGATION

DELEGATE JESSICA FELDMARK  
HOUSE CHAIR

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
6 BLADEN STREET, ROOM 350  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

DELEGATE VANESSA ATTERBEARY  
DELEGATE PAM LANMAN GUZZONE  
DELEGATE TERRI L. HILL  
DELEGATE JEN TERRASA  
DELEGATE COURTNEY WATSON  
DELEGATE CHAO WU  
DELEGATE NATALIE ZIEGLER

March 22, 2024  
The Honorable Guy Guzzone  
Chair, Budget and Taxation  
The Maryland State Senate  
Miller Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street, 3 West Wing  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair Guzzone,

The Howard County Delegation **voted in favor** of the following bill that will appear before your committee:

*HB1440 -- Howard County Public Schools - Differences in Capital Budget Proposals - Report  
Ho. Co. 16-24*

A copy of the Delegation vote sheet on the bill is attached, and we request a favorable committee report. Please contact the Howard County Delegation office at [hoc1@mlis.state.md.us](mailto:hoc1@mlis.state.md.us) if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Senator Clarence K. Lam in blue ink.

Senator Clarence K. Lam, MD, MPH  
Senate Chair  
Howard County Delegation

Handwritten signature of Delegate Jessica Feldmark in blue ink.

Delegate Jessica Feldmark  
House Chair  
Howard County Delegation

# Howard County Delegation

Voting Record – 2024 Session

Bill Number: HB1440

HoCo Bill Number: 16-24

Vote Date: 2/7/2024

Final Action: Passed

## Motion:

Favorable

Favorable with Amendment

Withdrawn

Name	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Excused
Lam, Clarence, Chair, Sen.	✓			
Feldmark, Jessica, Chair, Del.	✓			
Guzzone, Guy, Sen.				✓
Hester, Katie Fry, Sen.	✓			
Atterbeary, Vanessa, Del.	✓			
Guzzone, Pam, Del.	✓			
Hill, Terri, Del.	✓			
Terrasa, Jen, Del.	✓			
Watson, Courtney, Del.	✓			
Wu, Chao, Del.	✓			
Ziegler, Natalie, Del.	✓			

Committee Reporter Rebecca Doring

**HB1440 Howard Co BOE Testimony 032624 for B&T - Ho**

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Position: UNF



**Board of Education  
of Howard County**

Jennifer Swickard Mallo, *Chair*

Yun Lu, Ph.D., *Vice Chair*

Linfeng Chen, Ph.D.

Jacky McCoy

Jolene Mosley

Robyn C. Scates, Esq.

Antonia Watts

Lamia Ayaz  
*Student Member*

William J. Barnes  
*Acting Superintendent,  
Secretary/Treasurer*

**Board of Education of Howard County  
Testimony Submitted to the Maryland Senate,  
Budget and Taxation Committee  
March 26, 2024**

**HB1440: UNFAVORABLE**

**Howard County Public Schools - Differences in Capital Budget Proposals - Report  
Ho. Co. 16-24**

The Board of Education of Howard County (the Board) opposes **HB1440 Howard County Public Schools - Differences in Capital Budget Proposals - Report Ho. Co. 16-24** as a mandate on local board of education authority.

HB1440 as proposed by the Howard County Delegation requires the Howard County Public School System (HCPSS), within 30 days of approval, to publish a report on its website when the capital budget approved by the Board has differences from the Superintendent's proposed capital budget. The report must include: the differences between the proposed and approved budgets; and the detailed rationale for each difference. The report must also be provided to the General Assembly. A similar report must be published when the Superintendent's proposed capital improvement plan differs from the Board's previously approved plan.

HCPSS currently posts both the Superintendent's proposed capital budget and capital improvement plan and the Board proposed budget on its [Capital Budget Overview](#) website. Reports and discussions on changes made during the capital budget process, [which spans from August to May each year](#), are found on the public BoardDocs website. The reports required under HB1440 would be a redundant recap of the current process.

Legislation that limits local board decision-making authority may weaken the Board's bond with the local community and adversely impact the community's participation in the governance and operation of the school system. The Board agrees with the intent of HB1440 to be transparent with the community but should retain the local authority to determine how it communicates with constituents on matters within the Board's purview.

For these reasons, we urge an UNFAVORABLE report of HB1440 from this Committee.