
TO: House Ways and Means Committee
BILL: House Bill (HB) 1426 – Education – Blueprint for Maryland’s Future – Alterations
DATE: February 28, 2024
POSITION: Support

Chair Atterbeary and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

The Maryland State Board of Education (State Board) and the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) would like to express our support for **HB 1426**, which takes several actions related to the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future.

We appreciate the collaboration from the Accountability and Implementation Board in sharing this legislation prior to its introduction for the State Board and MSDE’s feedback and input. We have no concerns with several of the changes laid out in the bill and actively support others.

The State Board and MSDE support the proposed allowance for Patty Centers and Judy Centers to utilize a year of funding for planning and development of new centers to foster successful implementation of the Patty Center and Judy Center models.

We also support the recommendation to include the National Board Certification fee subsidy for school-based, nonclassroom teachers like instructional specialists, administrators, and principals, who may join the career ladder to further support educators in their attempts to secure National Board Certification.

We believe that these are common sense adjustments to the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future and are emblematic of necessary updates as we all navigate implementation of this once-in-a-generation investment into public education.

The State Board and MSDE request a favorable committee report on **HB 1426**. Please contact Dr. Akilah Alleyne, Executive Director of Government Affairs, Education Policy, and Government Relations, at Akilah.alleyne@maryland.gov or at 410-767-0504 or Zach Hands, Executive Director of the State Board, at Zachary.hands1@maryland.gov or at 443-915-6094, if you would like any additional information.