

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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DATE: March 3, 2025

BILL: SB 506

TITLE: Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Use of Reimbursement Funds by Schools

COMMITTEE: Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

POSITION: OPPOSE

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) **opposes** Senate Bill 506, which requires each county school system to use certain funds received for services provided under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program or the Maryland Children's Health Insurance Program to provide certain positions, internships, and stipends.

Senate Bill 506 would restrict the school systems' flexibility to allocate the Medicaid revenues to PGCPS priority of services for students with disabilities. This bill would require the costs of special education services to be redirected from Medicaid revenues to PGCPS' annual operating budget, possibly creating a deficit in PGCPS' annual operating budget.

Currently, Medicaid revenues fund \$0.3 million in Compliance Services, \$0.5 million in Early Childhood Support, \$3.0 million in K-12 Support, \$2.1 million in Medicaid Office Support, \$0.85 million in Private Duty Nurse Contracts, \$3.9 million in Professional Development for Schools, and \$1.1 million in Related Services and other school supports. The passage of this bill would require PGCPS to reallocate the above expenditures to the annual operating budget, which could result in the reduction of available support, services, and resources to students with disabilities.

Moreover, mandating how local school systems should use the revenues they receive through Medicaid billing will undoubtedly have a negative impact on services to students with disabilities and the annual operating budget. Thus, mandating how Medicaid funds will be spent, is to preempt the decision-making authority of local school systems charged with this responsibility.

For these reasons, we request that you issue an unfavorable report for Senate Bill 506. Thank you.

For these reasons, Prince George's County Public Schools requests an unfavorable report on Senate Bill 506.

Thank you.

Millard House II

Superintendent of Schools

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