



**Board of Education
of Howard County**

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**Board of Education of Howard County
Testimony Submitted to the Maryland House of Delegates,
Ways and Means Committee
March 26, 2025**

SB0602: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS

County Boards of Education - Special Education Service Delivery Models - Publication Requirement

The Board of Education of Howard County (the Board) supports **County Boards of Education - Special Education Service Delivery Models - Publication Requirement** with amendments to clarify expectations for publication of school system services.

SB0602 requires local boards of education to develop and publish online a list of all special education service delivery models provided to parentally placed private school students within the jurisdiction of the local school system. "Parentally placed private school student" is defined under the bill as a child with a disability enrolled by the parent or guardian of the child in a private elementary or secondary school or facility, including a religious school or facility, in accordance with relevant federal statute. It does not include a child with a disability placed in or referred to nonpublic placement by a public agency to ensure appropriate educational services are provided to the child.

In accordance with existing federal regulations that require local school systems to indicate how, where, and by whom special education and related services will be provided for parentally-placed private school children with disabilities, HCPSS posts the following on our public website:

Child Find: School-Aged Children (5–21)

For both resident and non-resident students who are parentally placed in a private or religiously affiliated school in Howard County.

Email the [Child Find Office](#).

Learn more about the special education process for [school-aged children \(5-21\)](#).

While staff believes HCPSS would be in compliance with SB0602 based on the information shared above, and this Committee already passed HB0702 with the same language, it is important to note that basic reading of the bill, without understanding the intent as noted by the sponsor during initial hearings, has raised questions about the whether this bill calls for publication of services provided by nonpublic schools. The language could be clarified to specify that what is being published is services provided *by the local school system* and not the services of the private school where the student is placed. A recommended amendment would be as follows:

(B) (1) Each county board shall develop and publish on its website:

(I) a list of all special education service delivery models in the local school system; **AND**

(II) SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM TO PARENTALLY-PLACED PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENTS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM.

With the above amendments to clarify the services to be posted are those provided by the local school system, we urge a FAVORABLE report on SB0602 from this Committee.