

# SENATE BILL 960

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6lr1517  
CF HB 1430

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By: ~~Senator Rosapepe~~ **Senators Rosapepe and Ready**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2026

Assigned to: Rules

Re-referred to: Budget and Taxation, March 5, 2026

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted with floor amendments

Read second time: March 22, 2026

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

### 2 **Maryland Public Charter School Program – School Facilities – Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Interagency Commission on School Construction to  
4 distribute certain funds to public charter schools for ~~the maintenance and operation~~  
5 ~~of~~ capital improvements to public charter school facilities, debt service, or rent or  
6 lease payments; requiring certain public charter schools to report to the Interagency  
7 Commission on School Construction on the status of certain projects; and generally  
8 relating to the funding of public charter school facilities in the Maryland Public  
9 Charter School Program.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Education

12 Section 9–109(c)

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

16 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

### 17 **Article – Education**

18 9–109.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (C) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, "PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL FACILITIES"  
2 MEANS PREMISES THAT ARE:

3 (I) OWNED OR LEASED BY A PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL; OR

4 (II) OCCUPIED AND UTILIZED BY A PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL  
5 TO PROVIDE A PROGRAM OF PRIMARY OR SECONDARY EDUCATION TO ITS  
6 STUDENTS.

7 (2) (I) THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION ON SCHOOL  
8 CONSTRUCTION SHALL DISTRIBUTE FUNDS TO PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS ~~FOR THE~~  
9 ~~MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF~~ IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBSECTION FOR  
10 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL FACILITIES, DEBT SERVICE,  
11 OR RENT OR LEASE PAYMENTS.

12 (II) FUNDS DISBURSED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS  
13 PARAGRAPH SHALL BE PAID DIRECTLY TO THE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AND MAY  
14 NOT BE PAID TO A LOCAL GOVERNING BODY OR COUNTY BOARD.

15 (3) IF A PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL IS LOCATED IN A BUILDING OWNED  
16 BY THE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM, THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION ON SCHOOL  
17 CONSTRUCTION MAY NOT DISTRIBUTE FUNDS TO THE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL  
18 FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SCHOOL FACILITY, DEBT SERVICE, OR RENT  
19 OR LEASE PAYMENTS UNDER THIS SUBSECTION IN FISCAL YEARS DURING WHICH  
20 THE SCHOOL FACILITY IS UNDERGOING A PROJECT THAT IS RECEIVING STATE  
21 FUNDING THROUGH THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

22 (4) IF THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT  
23 PROGRAM IN A FISCAL YEAR IS LESS THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT IN THE PRIOR  
24 FISCAL YEAR, THE AMOUNT OF FUNDS DISTRIBUTED TO PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS  
25 UNDER THIS SUBSECTION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR SHALL BE PROPORTIONATELY  
26 REDUCED.

27 (5) THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION ON SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION  
28 MAY NOT USE FUNDS DISTRIBUTED TO A PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL UNDER THIS  
29 SUBSECTION AS JUSTIFICATION TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT PROVIDED TO A LOCAL  
30 SCHOOL SYSTEM THROUGH THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

31 (6) A PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL THAT RECEIVES FUNDS UNDER THIS  
32 SUBSECTION DURING A FISCAL YEAR SHALL REPORT TO THE INTERAGENCY  
33 COMMISSION ON SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION ON THE STATUS OF ANY PROJECT FOR  
34 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL FACILITIES, DEBT SERVICE,  
35 OR RENT OR LEASE PAYMENTS BEFORE THE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL MAY  
36 RECEIVE FUNDS FOR THE FOLLOWING FISCAL YEAR.

1           ~~(3)~~ (7)       FOR FISCAL YEAR 2028 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR  
 2 THEREAFTER, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN  
 3 APPROPRIATION FOR ~~THE MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF CAPITAL~~  
 4 IMPROVEMENTS TO PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL FACILITIES, DEBT SERVICE, OR RENT  
 5 OR LEASE PAYMENTS THAT IS EQUAL TO THE TOTAL AGGREGATE STUDENT  
 6 ENROLLMENT IN THE MARYLAND PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR THE  
 7 PRIOR FISCAL YEAR MULTIPLIED BY ~~\$1,600~~ \$200.

8           ~~(4)~~ (8)       (I)   THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION ON SCHOOL  
 9 CONSTRUCTION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SUBSECTION.

10                       (II)   IN THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I)  
 11 OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE INTERAGENCY COMMISSION ON SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION  
 12 SHALL INCLUDE REGULATIONS THAT:

13                               1.   ESTABLISH THE PROCEDURES TO COMPLY WITH  
 14 PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION IF A LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM SUBMITS A  
 15 MID-YEAR CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDING REQUEST; AND

16                               2.   ENSURE A PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL RECEIVES  
 17 FUNDS UNDER THIS SUBSECTION IF THE LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM RESCINDS A  
 18 CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDING REQUEST AND THE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL IS  
 19 SUBSEQUENTLY ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.

20           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
 21 1, 2026.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.