



HB1 – BUILT TO LEARN ACT

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BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

SUPPORT

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Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) supports **HB1 Built to Learn Act**. This bill authorizes the Maryland Stadium Authority to issue up to \$2.2 billion in revenue bonds, backed by annual payments of up to \$125 million from the Education Trust Fund beginning in fiscal year 2021, with the proceeds to be used for public school construction projects in the State. The bill also establishes the Public Schools Facilities Priority Fund. The Fund will receive \$40 million beginning in fiscal year 2023 and increase to \$80 million in fiscal year 2027 in mandated funding to address highest priority schools around the State.

AACPS strongly supports the development and funding of adequate and equitable State and federal programs to assist localities with public school construction, renovation, and major maintenance projects. We appreciate the General Assembly's efforts to adequately fund public school construction. HB1 provides supplemental school construction funding that would help AACPS address our \$2.1 billion infrastructure backlog. While we are pleased with the overall legislation, we do have a concern that the funding under this bill will come from the Education Trust Fund. It is important to consider that utilizing the Education Trust Fund could negatively impact the funding stream that may be needed to support the recommendations of the Kirwan Commission.

Accordingly, AACPS respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE** committee report on HB1.