

The Voice of Merit Construction

March 11, 2020

Mike Henderson

President Baltimore Metro Chapter mhenderson@abcbaltimore.org

Chris Garvey

President & CEO Chesapeake Shores Chapter cgarvey@abc-chesapeake.org

Debra D. Livingston CAE

President & CEO
Metro Washington Chapter
dlivingston@abcmetrowashington.org

Amos McCoy

President & CEO
Cumberland Valley Chapter
amos@abccvc.com

Mark McDaniel

Chairman
Joint Legislative Committee
mmcdaniel@nlpentinc.com

Robert Zinsmeister

Director of Government Affairs Metro Washington Chapter bzinsmeister@abcmetrowashington.org

Additional representation by: Harris Jones & Malone, LLC

6901 Muirkirk Meadows Drive Suite F Beltsville, MD 20705 (T) (301) 595-9711 (F) (301) 595-9718 TO: BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

FROM: ASSOCIATED BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS

RE: S.B. 1026- INTERAGENCY COMMISSION ON

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION- PROJECT

APPROVAL- PRIORITIZATION

POSITION: OPPOSE

Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) opposes S.B. 1026 which is before you today for consideration. The bill would require the Interagency Commission on School Construction, when approving public school construction projects, to give priority to a project in or near a school facility that closed during the school year due to a severe issue.

There exists a lengthy and comprehensive process to determine the order new schools will be approved for construction. This process allows all stakeholders to participate and express their opinions on which schools should be built. The fiscal note indicates the local effect of the bill may result in some school construction projects that are currently prioritized by local school systems and county governments being delayed.



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As we are about to undertake a major school construction initiative as part of the Kirwan Report, this bill would hinder, not help, the orderly implementation of this effort.

On behalf of the over 1,500 business members of ABC in the state of Maryland, we respectfully request an unfavorable report on S.B. 1026.

Robert Zinsmeister, Director Government Affairs