



SB196 ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY - BOARD OF EDUCATION - VOTING

February 4, 2020

EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

OPPOSE

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The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County opposes **SB196 Anne Arundel County - Board of Education – Voting**. This emergency bill increases the number of affirmative votes (from five to six) required for the approval of any action by the Anne Arundel County Board of Education.

Under current law, the affirmative vote of at least five members of the Board of Education of Anne Arundel County is required for the approval of any action of the Board. SB196 would have a negative impact and infringes on local board authority and the Board's ability to conduct business and provide oversight over the school system. This bill would significantly alter the voting requirements of the Board as the approval requirement would be 75% as opposed to the simple majority currently required in the law. This bill would also single out Anne Arundel County as having the most restrictive voting requirement of any other board of education in the State. In fact, the standard established under this bill would be even higher than that for the County Council or the General Assembly to pass laws.

Accordingly, we respectfully request an **UNFAVORABLE** committee report on SB196.