



MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential

850 Hungerford Drive ♦ Room 123 ♦ Rockville, Maryland 20850

BILL: SB0830 (Cross filed with HB1022)
TITLE: Education - Alternative Schools - Reporting Requirements
DATE: 3/3/2020
POSITION: OPPOSE
COMMITTEE: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
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The Montgomery County Board of Education (Board) **opposes** SB0830.

This bill requires information from alternative schools be reported to the Maryland State Department of Education. Most reporting requirements identified are part of current practice for all schools with the exception of pregnant or parenting status; number of days of enrollment.

Students may be assigned to our programs through the Department of Justice, disciplinary action from the comprehensive school, and/or administrative placement. Some students may self-elect to enroll because of the smaller program setting. As such, enrollment fluctuates on a daily basis making the following proposed reporting requirements a challenge because of the fluid and flexible nature of student enrollment in our Alternative Education Programs.

The bills requires that the average student-teacher ratio for classrooms within the school or program and achievement data, with identifying student information redacted, for all students enrolled in the school or program, including: (I) standardized test scores; (II) grade promotion rates; and (III) graduation rates be included. This achievement data is collected and reported by the comprehensive school and not tied to the Alternative Education Program.

For these reasons, the Board **opposes** this legislation and urges an unfavorable report.