



JAN H. GARDNER

**Frederick County
Executive**

HB1300

SB 1000

**Blueprint for Maryland's Future
- Implementation**

County Position: SUPPORT

Date: February 17, 2020

Committee: Joint Committee Hearing

Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner urges your **SUPPORT** for House Bill 1300 and Senate Bill 1000 – Blueprint for Maryland's Future - Implementation.

Public education has been the path to opportunity for generations. It is our collective goal to ensure that we keep the promise of public education for all students particularly those living in poverty and with special needs. We know that public education has the power to lift our students, their families and ensure our long-term economic prosperity.

The 2016 Adequacy Study and the work of the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education builds on Maryland's historic commitment to and strong foundation of support for the State's K-12 public schools. The Commission's policy and school finance recommendations, brought to fruition through this legislation, sets the stage that will allow Maryland to provide a world class education to every student in the State. The proposed legislation closely reflects the recommendations of the Commission.

County Executive Gardner supports the provisions in the proposed legislation that:

- Supports the explicit goals of the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education to ensure for every student in Maryland a high quality education and access to opportunity that will allow them to grow into successful adults, living rewarding and productive lives;
- Focuses on key policies that are proven to ensure the success of schools and students, including investments in high quality early childhood education and care, higher standards and status of the teaching profession, a comprehensive system of education that provides rigor and opportunity to all students, enhanced support for our most vulnerable students, and accountability that ensures excellence and equity for all;
- Effectively updates the State's public school funding and finance formula to provide adequate support for public education as well as equity in funding across the state; and
- Generates through the development of our most valuable resource – our people – a robust economy with opportunity for all in shared prosperity.

Frederick County Executive Gardner urges favorable **SUPPORT** for House Bill 1300 and Senate Bill 1000.