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The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.  
Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Senate Bill 1052 - Criminal Procedure - Registered Sex Offenders - Entry Onto School Property

**POSITION: SUPPORT**

Dear Chairman Smith, Vice-Chairman Waldstreicher, and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

The Administration strongly supports Senate Bill 1052 - Criminal Procedure - Registered Sex Offenders - Entry Onto School Property, legislation which prohibits students who are registered sex offenders from entering school property. Each county board must develop and adopt a policy to enable students who are registered sex offenders to continue receiving an education in a location other than real property that is used for public or nonpublic elementary or secondary education.

Under current law, students who are registered sex offenders can enroll and attend school if they receive specific written permission. This policy has failed Maryland's students. We are all aware of the horrific, recent incident where a registered sex offender was enrolled at Parkville High School after pleading guilty to second-degree assault and a fourth-degree sex offense. The 21-year-old former student is now facing charges of second-degree rape and two additional counts of a sexual offense and assault. The alleged victim was a 15-year-old student.

Individuals convicted of a sexual offense are required to register with the Sex Offender Registry. The term and type of registration depends on the crime, the age of the victim, and the date on which the offense was committed.

Students deserve to feel and be safe in their schools. Sex offenders do not belong in our schools. Senate Bill 1052 will help protect Maryland's students from proven sex offenders. For these reasons, the Administration strongly urges a favorable report on Senate Bill 1052.

Sincerely,

Keiffer Mitchell  
Chief Legislative Officer

