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BILL NO.: **HB 302**

TITLE: Criminal Law - Deadly Weapons on School Property -
Nonpublic Schools (No Weapons on Nonpublic School
Property Act)

SPONSOR: Delegate Love

COMMITTEE: Judiciary

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 5, 2020

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 302 – Criminal Law - Deadly Weapons on School Property - Nonpublic Schools (No Weapons on Nonpublic School Property Act). This bill would expand the scope of current prohibitions on carrying or possessing a deadly weapon on public school property to include nonpublic school property.

The spate of mass shootings recent years has proven unequivocally that we cannot afford to leave any stone unturned when it comes to protecting our children from gun violence. Currently, this ban only applies to public schools, yet Baltimore County is home to dozens of private institutions that may be equally at risk. Many of these are religious institutions, and with the rise of religiously motivated attacks around the country, these schools could also be prime targets for bad actors.

By expanding this law to nonpublic institutions, Baltimore County will be able to more effectively protect its residents and prevent tragedy from reaching our students.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 302. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Chief Legislative Officer, 443-900-6582.