



HB725 EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS - INSTRUCTION IN PRINT AND CURSIVE HANDWRITING

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WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

OPPOSE

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Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) opposes **HB725**. This bill requires, beginning in the 2021-2022 school year, each county board of education to require each public elementary school in the county to provide handwriting instruction that enables students to develop legible print handwriting by the end of the third grade and legible cursive handwriting by the end of the fifth grade.

AACPS opposes efforts by the General Assembly to legislate local public school curriculum or assessments. The authority to establish curriculum and assessments is the domain of the State Board of Education and the local boards of education, the same entities charged with the responsibility to research, investigate, and evaluate both curriculum and assessments. Maintaining this authority with the State Board and local boards allows local boards of education to collaborate with the State and stakeholders to ensure that all students, schools, and school systems are held accountable.

Accordingly, AACPS respectfully requests an **UNFAVORABLE** committee report on HB725.