



**HB603 COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION - ESTABLISHING REGIONAL CAREER AND
TECHNICAL EDUCATION SCHOOLS – AUTHORITY**

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WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

OPPOSE

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Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) opposes **HB603 County Boards of Education - Establishing Regional Career and Technical Education Schools – Authority**. This bill authorizes specified local school boards on the Eastern Shore to establish a regional career and technology education (CTE) school under specified conditions. A regional CTE school must comply with all regulations and statutory provisions governing other public schools and must operate under the terms of the collective bargaining agreement in effect in the county where the school is located. The Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC) must study and develop a State and local cost-share formula for the construction or renovation of regional CTE schools.

The State must provide 100% of per-pupil operating and school construction funding for a school established under the bill in addition to education formula aid provided to the school systems under current law. A regional CTE school must comply with all regulations and statutory provisions governing other public schools.

AACPS opposes new State initiatives that need funding from the Public School Construction Program. This legislation would not benefit AACPS and our CIP program because Anne Arundel County and AACPS do not comport with the eligibility criteria. Fewer public school construction projects may receive State funding annually as a result of this bill. As such, this legislation could result in the loss of State funding for other public school construction projects in AACPS because it would further dilute currently available funding.

Accordingly, AACPS respectfully requests an **UNFAVORABLE** committee report on HB603.