HB1145 MARYLAND MEALS FOR ACHIEVEMENT FUND - ESTABLISHMENT

February 28, 2020 WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

SUPPORT

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Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) supports **HB1145 Maryland Meals for Achievement** Fund – Establishment. This bill imposes the State sales and use tax on the sale of snack food by repealing the current exemption. Snack food is defined as potato chips and sticks, corn chips, pretzels, cheese puffs and curls, pork rinds, extruded pretzels and chips, popped popcorn, and specified snack mixtures. The bill also establishes the Maryland Meals for Achievement Fund and directs all revenue generated from the sales and use tax on snack food to the fund.

AACPS does not have a position on the provisions in the bill that propose to tax the sale of snack foods. However, we support the establishment of the Maryland Meals for Achievement Fund. The Maryland Meals for Achievement in-classroom breakfast program, in which 49 AACPS schools participate, has been credited with improving academics, behavior, and the well-being of students. This program provides all students at eligible schools with a free breakfast.

Accordingly, AACPS respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE** committee report on HB1145.