



MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential

850 Hungerford Drive ♦ Room 123 ♦ Rockville, Maryland 20850

BILL: HB1499
TITLE: Education - Public High Schools - Financial Literacy Curriculum
DATE: 3/4/2020
POSITION: OPPOSE
COMMITTEE: Ways and Means
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The Montgomery County Board of Education (Board) **opposes** HB1499.

House Bill 1499 places an undue burden on students by limiting their career pathways, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and elective choices by adding another graduation requirement. In addition, time within the current high school structure and with the existing graduation requirements makes it difficult for some students to complete required coursework within four years.

Different from previous bills is the requirement that students not only complete the course, but also demonstrate competency in order to graduate. While undefined, this could be interpreted to mean an additional state or local assessment students must pass in order to graduate.

Local School Systems are currently required to implement the Maryland Personal Financial Literacy Standards in elementary, middle, and high school. These standards are embedded in existing courses including the three week Finance Park program by Junior Achievement as well as the final three weeks of instruction in the required National, State, and Local Government high school course.

For these reasons, the Board **opposes** this legislation and urges an unfavorable report.