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## LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS OF MARYLAND, INC.

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March 2, 2021

Delegate Maggie McIntosh Chair, Appropriations Delegate Mark Chang Vice Chair, Appropriations

Dear Chair McIntosh and Members of the Committee:

The Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland has voted to offer **favorable** support for HB 918 – Higher Education – Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program – Underrepresented Teachers. The purpose of this legislation is to establish the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Underrepresented Teachers.

There is a lack of Black, particularly black males, that are teachers. This legislation would increase the number of black teachers by providing financial support for individuals interested in becoming teachers. It is important that black students have teachers that look like them. For these reasons, the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland supports HB 918.

Respectfully,

Darryl Barnes

Darryl Barnes Chair, Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland

Melissa Wells

Melissa Wells 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland