



## HB214 JUVENILES - REPORTABLE OFFENSES

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JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

### SUPPORT

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Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) supports **HB214 Juveniles - Reportable Offenses**. This bill requires the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS), for students committed to its custody, to notify the local superintendent and the school principal of a school in which the student has enrolled or to which the student has been transferred of the student's arrest for a reportable offense or an offense that is related to the student's membership in a criminal gang and the disposition of the reportable offense. DJS must also provide information regarding any educational programming and related services provided to the student.

Safety in public schools remains increasingly important to local boards of education as school-related security incidents and threats in Maryland and throughout the nation have increased over the years. As a result, it is essential for educational leaders to be included in the continued development of a comprehensive security plan.

Communication among stakeholders is essential in helping to maintain school safety. As such, AACPS supports legislation that eliminates impediments to communication among school system, law enforcement and juvenile justice officials. HB214 will assist in this endeavor by further enhancing the current reportable offense statute and help eliminate communication barriers that currently exists between schools and DJS.

Additionally, the provision in the bill requiring DJS to provide information regarding any educational programming and related services provided to the student will help a school system to provide the supports necessary for a student to be successful in the student's new environment.

Accordingly, AACPS respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE** committee report on HB214.