



Mary Pat Fannon, Executive Director

BILL: HB 1349 – Education Support Professionals – Workgroup and Bonus
DATE: March 10, 2022
POSITION: Favorable with amendment
COMMITTEE: House Ways and Means Committee
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This bill requires the Governor to include an appropriation in the fiscal 2024 budget that is sufficient to provide a bonus of either \$500 or \$1,000, as specified, to each noncertificated education support professional. The bill also establishes a Workgroup to Study the Wages of Education Support Professionals, staffed by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), to (1) determine what percentage of education support professionals in the State earn a living wage and (2) study increasing the wages of education support professionals to attract and retain skilled workers.

The Public School Superintendents’ Association of Maryland (PSSAM), which represents all twenty-four local school superintendents, **supports House Bill 1349 with an amendment.**

PSSAM appreciates the sponsors’ recognition of some of the inequities in compensation among noncertificated education support professionals. As the State’s largest employers of these professionals, *we ask for an amendment to be included on the workgroup.* We would appreciate the opportunity to study these issues along with our union and board colleagues and thank you for your consideration.

Therefore, we respectfully **support HB 1349** with an amendment to include PSSAM as a workgroup member, and urges a **favorable with amendment** committee report.

One Voice, One Vision for Maryland’s Students