



MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential

850 Hungerford Drive ♦ Room 123 ♦ Rockville, Maryland 20850

BILL: HB1280
TITLE: Public Schools - Mathematics Credit - College Preparatory Computer Science or Computer Programming Course
DATE: 03/10/2022
POSITION: Support with Amendment
COMMITTEE: Ways and Means
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The Montgomery County Board of Education (Board) **supports** HB1280 with an amendment.

This bill would authorize a student who is enrolled at a public high school to satisfy a graduation requirement to earn credits in mathematics by completing a credit in a certain college preparatory computer science or computer programming course. A student must be enrolled in the course concurrently with or after Algebra II.

This bill would expand options for students to fulfill the state requirement of earning a mathematics credit for each year of study in high school (4 credits). MCPS already provides courses in computer science and/or computer programming, to support students taking advantage of this opportunity (see 2022 - 2023 MCPS High School Course Bulletin, page 19 for a list of courses). In MCPS, we make an Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles course available to students, with the requirement of a co-requisite of Algebra I, not Algebra II. If the bill passed with its current language it would disadvantage MCPS students who have taken an Advanced Placement Computer Science who would want to use that course credit to count as a mathematics credit for the purposes of meeting graduation requirements. Therefore, the Board respectfully requests an amendment to revise the bill to include Algebra I as the co-requisite.

For these reasons, the Board **supports** this legislation **with an amendment** and urges a favorable report.