

CHARLES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President Bobby Rucci, Vice President Gilbert O. Bowling, III Thomasina O. Coates, M.S. Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.

Mark Belton County Administrator

March 7, 2022

Bill: HB 1124 Primary and Secondary Education - Local School Systems - Budget Reporting

Committee: Ways and Mean Position: FAVORABLE

Dear Madam Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chairman Washington, and Members:

It is the sincere pleasure of the Charles County Commissioners to support passage of HB 1124.

HB 1124 requires each local school system, on or before November 1 and March 1 from 2022 through 2032 to report to the Accountability and Implementation Board on all expenditures in the local school system's annual budget, disaggregated by each major budget category, and requires the Board to provide a local government with a copy of the report on request.

As the governing body for Charles County, we are faced with making difficult decisions on funding requests from our local Board of Education each year, in addition to many other agencies in our County that make up our annual budget. The more information we can access to assess, the more informed and efficient our budget process will be in the future. Additionally, as we work to implement the Blueprint, we will need to understand our local educational expenditures more comprehensively than in years past. We believe HB 1124 will assist us as we work cooperatively with our local Board of Education to meet the needs of our Charles County students.

We encourage a favorable committee report on HB 1124. Thank you for the opportunity to provide our full support.

Sincerely,

County Commissioners of Charles County Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., President

cc: Charles County Delegation