



**The County Commissioners of Kent County**  
Ronald H. Fithian, President | Albert H. Nickerson, Member | John F. Price, Member  
Shelley L. Heller, County Administrator | Thomas N. Yeager, County Attorney

February 28, 2023

The Honorable Jay A. Jacobs  
Room 321, Lowe House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1912

The Honorable Steven J. Arentz  
Lowe House Office Building, Room 308  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1912

The Honorable Jefferson L. Ghrist  
Lowe House Office Building, Room 430  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1912

RE: SUPPORT House Bill 0799 / Senate Bill 0912 Education-Low Density Calculation-Mandated Funding

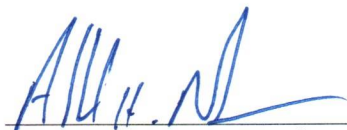
Dear Delegates Jacobs, Arentz, and Ghrist:

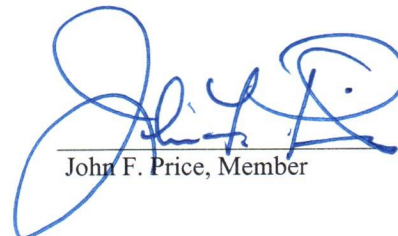
The County Commissioners of Kent County, Maryland support House Bill 0799 / Senate Bill 0912 Education – Low-Density Calculation – Mandated Funding. Kent County is supportive of the programmatic improvements to the public education system outlined in the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future. The Blueprint’s fiscal mandates disproportionately affect Kent County due to the low student count being such a small school system. Kent County has been identified as one of the local jurisdictions most impacted by the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future in terms of increases in per-pupil appropriations relative to local wealth. To fund the Blueprint, Kent County would have to significantly increase property taxes to fund the increased appropriations. The fiscal stress to Kent County is repeatedly noted in the *Local Fiscal Impact of Implementing the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future*. Department of Legislative Services, Office of Policy Analysis, January 2022.

We respectfully submit our full support to HB0799 / SB0912.

Sincerely,  
THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND

  
Ronald H. Fithian, President

  
Albert H. Nickerson., Member

  
John F. Price, Member

cc: The County Commissioners of Kent County  
The Honorable Stephen S. Hershey, Jr.  
Dr. Karen M. Couch, Superintendent, Kent County Public Schools