



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 Ben Barnes
Room 121, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

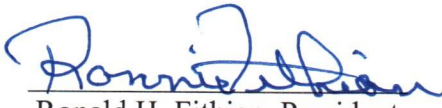
RE: SUPPORT House Bill 0799 / Senate Bill 0912 Education-Low Density Calculation-Mandated Funding

Dear Chair Barnes and Members of the Appropriations Committee:

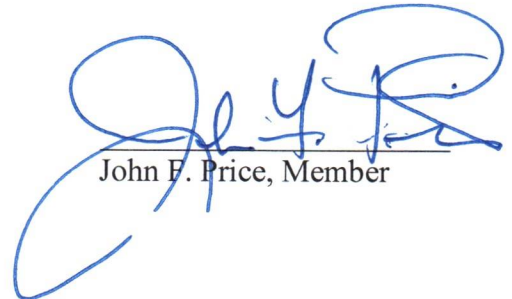
The County Commissioners of Kent County, Maryland support House Bill 0799 / Senate Bill 0912 Education – Low-Density Calculation – Mandated Funding. Kent County is supportive of the programmatic improvements to the public education system outlined in the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future. The Blueprint’s 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.
The Honorable Jay A. Jacobs
The Honorable Steven J. Arentz
The Honorable Jefferson L. Ghrist
Dr. Karen M. Couch, Superintendent, Kent County Public Schools