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Calvert and Prince George's Counties

Environment and Transportation
Committee



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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Good evening, Chair Barnes, Vice Chair Chang, and Appropriations Committee,

I'm here on behalf of HB515, this bill passed through the Senate last year but not through this Committee. I represent two counties, Prince Georges and Calvert County. Sen. Jackson was instrumental in getting legislation like this private and public partnership passed in Prince George's County; now it's time to get a similar one done in Calvert.

Everyone from the Calvert County Commissioners, the superintendent, and the school board support this legislation before you today. This bill creates a workgroup to study the fiscal and operational feasibility of using public-private partnerships to fund the construction, renovations, and maintenance of schools within the county. The workgroup will consist of 10 members: two from the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate based on the recommendation of the chair of the Calvert County Senate delegation, two by the speaker of the house based on the recommendation of the chair of the Calvert House delegation, two Calvert County Commissioners appointed by their board, two members of the board of education appointed by the chair of the board of education, the chair of the inner agency commission on school construction, the executive director of the Maryland stadium authority or their designee.

The task of this workgroup would be to make recommendations related to the use of public-private partnerships for new school construction and the maintenance of existing school facilities, after studying the fiscal and operational viability of these partnerships the implementation of these partnerships, and the potential economic benefit it has. HB515 is a simple piece of legislation to explore.

Mr. Chair and members of the Committee, we ask for a favorable report and thank you for your consideration.

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