



CECIL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT SERVICES

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER EDUCATION LEADERSHIP CENTER
201 BOOTH STREET • ELKTON, MD 21921

phone: 410.996.5490 • fax: 410.996.1062 • www.ccps.org

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Jeffrey A. Lawson, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Diana B. Hawley
President, Board of Education

Written Testimony:

Senate Bill 1077 – Public Schools – Appropriations for School Safety Expenditures

Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair

February 23, 2024

Jeffrey A. Lawson, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Cecil County Public Schools

Please be advised that on behalf of Cecil County Public Schools, I am requesting that Senate Bill 1077 – Public Schools – Appropriations for School Safety Expenditures, be given a favorable recommendation by the Budget and Taxation Committee.

Cecil County Public Schools is in favor of increasing the Safe School Grant Fund from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000 in Fiscal Year 2026, and increasing the Safe School Grant Fund from \$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000 in Fiscal Year 2027. We would like to see the funds able to be used for various school safety initiatives and have the flexibility for determining how the Safe Schools Fund Grant can be used given the uncertainty of the IAC school safety grant for school security improvements moving forward.

We would also like to emphasize that we would like the current county funding formula to still be utilized when determining county grant allocations moving forward.

For these reasons, the Cecil County Public Schools supports SB 1077 and **requests a favorable committee report.**

Sincerely,

Jeffrey A. Lawson, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools