

Brandon M. Scott, Mayor City of Baltimore

Ronald S. McFadden, Chair Board of School Commissioners

Sonja Brookins Santelises Chief Executive Officer

Testimony of the
Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners
Letter of Information
House Bill 1297 – Education
Artificial Intelligence Guidelines and Pilot Program

February 28, 2024

At present the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners employs a Director of Virtual Learning and Instructional Technology and Director of CTE under which the implementation of artificial intelligence (AI) may fall. Responsibility for this would also fall under the purview of the Office of Information Technology. As such, because we already have staff aligned to this work, we do not foresee any fiscal impact of this bill. Together these staff would leverage the learning, best practice, and guidance from the state to support AI procurement, implementation, monitoring, and inventorying. However, depending on future scope and scale, AI work could require new staff to be added to City Schools roster to support AI implementation and alignment with state requirements. Should new employees be needed state funding assistance would be required as this is not an area that the Blueprint envisioned and would require funding to support.

The legislation also requires MSDE to develop strategies to coordinate and assist school boards and superintendents to implement the best practices. The concern that the Board has is that MSDE should not require specific AI resources to use, but to offer technical assistance and guidance.

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