

INFORMATIONAL
House Bill 1418
Public Middle and High Schools – Start Time for Instruction - Requirement

House Ways and Means Committee
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The Maryland State Education Association offers this informational testimony on House Bill 1418, which would require a public middle school to begin instruction at 8 a.m. or later and a public high school to begin instruction at 8:30 a.m. or later, except in cases where a waiver is granted by the county board.

MSEA represents 75,000 educators and school employees who work in Maryland's public schools, teaching and preparing our almost 900,000 students so they can pursue their dreams. MSEA also represents 39 local affiliates in every county across the state of Maryland, and our parent affiliate is the 3-million-member National Education Association (NEA).

We appreciate efforts to support students' health and readiness to learn. To the extent that changes to school scheduling may affect school personnel's job requirements, we would urge that the implementation and impact of any changes are discussed and negotiated with local educators' unions. Bringing unions into the implementation process will mitigate potential unintended consequences to the wraparound services that schools provide and ensure that educators can support students effectively.