

Danielle Hornberger
County Executive

Steven Overbay
Director of Administration

Office: 410.996.5202
Email: dhornberger@ccgov.org



Jackie Gregory
Council President

Robert Meffley
Vice President

Office: 410.996.5201
Email: council@ccgov.org

CECIL COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Cecil County Administration Building
200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Elkton, MD 21921

March 6, 2024

The Honorable Vanessa E. Atterbeary
House Ways and Means Committee
Room 131
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 1400 – Public Schools - Student Use of Force - Authorization
Letter of Support

Dear Chairwoman Atterbeary and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee:

The County Council and the County Executive of Cecil County support HB 1400 - Public Schools - Student Use of Force - Authorization. The hearing on this legislation is scheduled for March 6, 2024.

It is our understanding that this legislation would authorize a student to take reasonable action necessary to prevent violence on school premises or on a school-sponsored trip; authorizing a student to use reasonable force necessary to protect themselves or escape an attack under certain circumstances; requiring the principal or school administration to investigate each student use of force incident; and prohibiting a school from disciplining a student under certain circumstances.

We believe that every individual, whether in a school or not, has the right to reasonably defend themselves from violence. Cecil County strongly supports this legislation.

The County Executive and County Council of Cecil County respectfully request that the Ways and Means Committee send a favorable report on HB 1400.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hornberger".

Danielle Hornberger
County Executive

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jackie Gregory".

Jackie Gregory
President of County Council