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Caroline, Cecil, Kent, and  
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—  
MINORITY LEADER  
—

Finance Committee  
Executive Nominations Committee

Rules Committee  
—

Joint Committee on Legislative Ethics

Legislative Policy Committee



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**THE SENATE OF MARYLAND**  
**ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401**

The Honorable Guy Guzzone  
Budget and Taxation Committee  
3 West Miller Senate Office Building

RE: Senate Bill 843- School Construction – Local Cost-Share - Alterations

Dear Chairman and Members of the Committee,

Senate Bill 843 alters the local and State cost share of school construction under the following criteria.

- The percentage of students in the county eligible for free or reduced-price meals is greater than the statewide average.
- All schools in the county participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture Community Eligibility Provisions. Kent County is one of seven counties in which all its schools participate.
- The state and local cost share must be 50% State and 50% local.
- The eligible project must be a school that is the only elementary, middle, or high school in the county. Kent county is the only county with one middle or high school.

Kent County is the only county that will meet all the bill's criteria and will put the County in a better position to move forward with the approved replacement of the county's only middle school. This middle school was built in 1950 and last renovated in 1976.

I have an amendment in file that will put a three-year sunset and narrows the language down to a county that only has one middle school and one high school in the county.

Senate Bill 843 is supported by the Kent County Commissioners and the Kent County Board of Education. I ask for your favorable consideration of Senate Bill 843.