

April 2, 2025

House Bill 772

**Education - Career Counseling Program for Middle and High School Students -
Alterations**

Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

Position: FAVORABLE

Anne Arundel County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 772 – Education - Career Counseling Program for Middle and High School Students - Alterations. This Bill formalizes the essential role that Maryland’s local workforce development boards play in career counseling for students and job seekers.

In Anne Arundel County, we have seen the tremendous value of this approach firsthand through the collaborative efforts of the Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corporation (AAWDC), Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS), and Anne Arundel Community College (AACC). Together, these partners have built a robust, locally aligned career counseling model that helps our residents make informed decisions about their education, training, and career paths. The impact is clear:

- AAWDC has embedded career coaches in middle and high schools, helping students explore high-demand career pathways and connect with opportunities to better prepare them for their future careers.
- AACPS has embraced workforce-aligned career advising, integrating career coaches in all schools and supporting the development of an innovative program that supports student success.
- AACC provides seamless transitions into dual enrollment programs, ensuring students can pursue in-demand credentials and degrees.

House Bill 772 builds on this momentum, providing a clear structure for continued collaboration between local education systems, workforce boards, and higher education institutions. It ensures that students across Maryland—regardless of zip code—have access to relevant, actionable career guidance that connects them to real opportunities in our communities.

Anne Arundel County is proud to be part of a model that is quickly gaining national attention. This Bill ensures that Maryland continues to lead in preparing our future workforce through coordinated, employer-informed career counseling. For all of these reasons, I respectfully request a **FAVORABLE** report on House Bill 772.



Steuart Pittman
County Executive