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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 5, 2025

**House Bill 1262 - County Boards of Education – Post College and Career Readiness Pathways –
Payment of Costs**

Dear Colleagues,

House Bill 1262 - County Boards of Education – Post College and Career Readiness Pathways – Payment of Costs is a bill that authorizes County Boards of Education in Maryland to establish income eligibility guidelines for the payment for AP/IB post-college and career readiness pathway exams.

With this legislation, County Boards of Education will be authorized to develop and establish income eligibility guidelines and procedures for the payment of Post-CCR Pathways. The Post-CCR Pathways allow students to develop in-depth specialization and/or earn a recognized credential. These include the IB Diploma, AP program, Dual enrollment or early college program, and Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs. If a student has a family income below 400% of the federal poverty level, the student would be provided access to the Post-CCR pathway at no cost to the student or the student's family.

Maryland's Blueprint made AP and IB Exams free for all students. However, in FY 24, the Montgomery County Public School System spent in excess of \$4.4M on AP and IB exams. This bill would allow MCPS and other school systems to continue covering the exam costs for families with the greatest need. MCPS and these other school systems would then be able to reallocate some funding to other areas of need for their school systems.

For these reasons, I urge your **favorable vote** on **House Bill 1262 - County Boards of Education – Post College and Career Readiness Pathways – Payment of Costs**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jheanelle Wilkins".

Delegate Jheanelle Wilkins