

House Bill 773 – Support

House Committee on Ways and Means
“Public Middle and High Schools - Student Discipline (Right to Teach Act of 2025)”
Hearing date 3/3/25

Chair and committee members.

Using Anne Arundel County Public Schools as an example, since FY19, funding has increased by 39% (Table 1), staff has increased by 11% (Table 2), and student enrollment has increased by only 1% (Table 3).

Despite huge increases in funding and staff – with basically flat student enrollment – SAT scores have dropped and proficiencies in ELA, Algebra, Science, and Social Studies are horrible (Table 4).

Clearly something besides funding and staff is driving poor student outcomes. This Bill will provide another avenue that will enable teachers to provide a quality education to our students.

Please return a **FAVORABLE** report for HB 773.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

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Table 1				Actual FY19	Actual FY20	Actual FY21	Actual FY22	Actual FY23	Approved FY24	Change FY19-FY24
All Operating Funds (\$M)				\$1,187	\$1,263	\$1,310	\$1,393	\$1,529	\$1,651	
YoY change					6.4%	3.7%	6.4%	9.7%	8.0%	39%

Table 2 - Staff Employed at School and Central Office Levels										
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	FY19-FY24		
Staff (as of Oct) Table 2										
Superintendents (incl Deputy, Associate, and Assistant)	14.0	14.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	21.0				
Directors, Coordinators, Supervisors, and Administrators	107.0	109.0	111.0	111.0	111.0	120.0				
Principals, Assistant Principals, and Other School Admin	314.0	323.0	324.0	330.0	337.0	354.0				
Teachers	5,617.0	5,787.0	5,957.5	6,013.6	5,930.1	6,068.9	Teachers	452		
Therapists	223.0	229.7	236.1	232.9	226.7	230.3				
Librarians	128.6	131.2	135.4	135.2	135.2	138.3				
School Counselors	220.2	239.8	252.8	255.8	262.5	266.5				
Psychological Personnel	70.8	78.8	81.4	83.4	89.8	92.8				
Pupil Personnel Workers and School Social Workers	58.3	67.3	70.3	74.3	86.5	93.3				
Other Professionals	609.3	647.3	671.7	692.0	757.7	806.6	All Other	630		
School Nurses and Other Health Professionals	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Teacher Aides	640.0	658.4	715.8	732.6	769.4	924.9				
Library Aides	57.3	57.8	58.2	59.8	59.4	57.0				
Other Aides	216.8	225.3	240.6	252.4	269.3	149.3				
Bus Drivers and Other Transportation Personnel	118.6	122.7	116.5	117.2	116.1	121.9				
Secretaries and Clerks	633.7	628.0	650.0	640.5	652.5	552.8				
Support Staff	1,226.2	1,236.7	1,199.7	1,204.2	1,171.8	1,339.0				
Total	10,254.8	10,556.0	10,836.0	10,949.9	10,990.0	11,336.6	Total	1,082		
YoY change		2.9%	2.7%	1.1%	0.4%	3.2%		11%		

Table 3 - Maryland Public School Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity and Gender and Number of Schools										
				2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	FY19-24
Enrollment (as of Sep 30) Table 1										
American Indian/Alaska Native				235	217	229	233	241	229	(6)
Asian				3,160	3,229	3,286	3,268	3,359	3,382	222
Black/African American				17,599	17,971	17,896	18,062	18,583	18,789	1,190
White				43,800	43,568	41,289	40,498	39,711	38,477	(5,323)
Hispanic				13,206	14,546	14,935	15,704	17,057	17,926	4,720
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander				182	163	169	158	142	123	(59)
Two or More Races				5,118	5,290	5,240	5,243	5,359	5,420	302
Total				83,300	84,984	83,044	83,166	84,452	84,346	1,046
YoY change					2.0%	-2.3%	0.1%	1.5%	-0.1%	1%

Table 4				MCAP					
				2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
SAT Mean Score for Graduates									
		Reading and Writing		566	518	536	539	515	
		Math		549	501	517	522	490	
		Total		1,115	1,019	1,053	1,061	1,005	
Increase % of students meeting or exceeding proficiency in MCAP State Assessments									AACPS Scorecard
		HS ELA 10		50.4%			56.4%	59.6%	63%
		Algebra 1		35.0%			17.2%	27.3%	10%
		HS Science		48.8%			37.0%	42.5%	47%
		Social Studies (from AACPS Scorecard)							46%