

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Title: County Superintendent of Prince George's County - Selection

Process - Alteration PG 506-25

Bill Number: HB 369 (PG 506-25)

Position: Support

Date: February 5, 2025

Pamela Boozer-Strother, MBA, CAE Contact: Johntel Greene (240-441-8597)

Dear Chair Atterbery and members of the Ways and Means Committee,

Thank you for the work you all do on behalf of our students, educators, staff, and members of the Prince George's County Public Schools community. We write to you today as members of the Prince George's County Board of Education in full support of HB 369, which alters the selection process by which the County Superintendent of the Prince George's County public school system is selected by requiring that the County Superintendent be selected by a majority of the members of the county board.

The current process for the selection of the Superintendent is through the County Executive. While the County Executive has an overall purview of the needs of the county, their expertise or background may not necessarily be in education. The local Board of Education scope of responsibility is focused on the county education system and its needs, making them uniquely qualified to the selection of the Superintendent. As the oversight body for the Superintendent's work and employment, including the local Board in the selection process would streamline and clarify this responsibility.

In nearby Montgomery County, Anne Arundel County, and Howard County, the Superintendent is selected and appointed by the local Board of Education. We consistently work well with the County Executive, County Council and our State Delegation, and other stakeholders and fully expect their perspectives to continue to be included in the search for Superintendent. The legislation only seeks to streamline responsibility by aligning the hiring process with oversight and termination.

For these reasons, the Board supports HB 369 and asks for your support as well.