



House Ways and Means Committee
HB57: County Boards of Education– Student Cellular Phone Use Policy–
Establishment
January 29, 2025
Position: Support with Amendment

The Arc Maryland is a statewide organization that works to protect and advance the rights and quality of life of people with disabilities.

We appreciate the consideration of students with disabilities and their possible use of a cell phone/apps to access their individualized Education programs. We respectfully request an amendment to line 10 and 11 on page two (2) to read:

(1) For any purpose documented in the student’s Individualized Education Program or 504 Plan.

Rationale: Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, students with disabilities have the right and opportunity to use assistive technology and/or other accommodations that allow them to access a free, appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment. It is fairly common for school teams to determine that a student with disabilities requires access to a cell phone or tablet with its apps, or similar device as part of their Individualized Education Program or 504 Plan.

For more information, please contact:

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