



FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Jessica Fitzwater
County Executive

HB 1329 – Education - Public School Construction - Funding

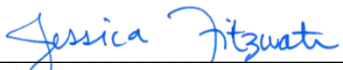
DATE: March 11, 2026
COMMITTEE: House Appropriations Committee
POSITION: Favorable
FROM: The Office of Frederick County Executive Jessica Fitzwater

As the County Executive of Frederick County, I urge the committee to give **HB 1329 – Education - Public School Construction – Funding** a favorable report. This legislation would increase the amount of funding the State must provide for school construction from \$450,000,000 to \$550,000,000 beginning in FY27.

As you may know, Frederick County is the fastest-growing jurisdiction in Maryland, and that trend is particularly apparent in our public-school enrollment. While this growth is a great endorsement of Frederick County and FCPS, a lack of adequate state school construction funding to keep up with capacity and infrastructure needs brings challenges to our County and school system. Frederick County is proud to consistently forward fund our school construction projects, however, the County budget and bonding capacity is limited. Without additional State funding, Frederick County cannot meet the capacity needs of our school system.

HB 1329 would assist in ensuring that growing counties in Maryland are receiving adequate funding to maintain and renovate our aging schools and construct new school facilities to keep up with our increasing enrollment.

Thank you for your consideration of HB 1329 and I urge a favorable report.



Jessica Fitzwater, County Executive
Frederick County, MD