

KIPP Baltimore

HB1430 – SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS

Maryland Public Charter School Program – School Facilities – Funding

March 30, 2026

Dear Chair and Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee,

I am writing to support HB1430 and to respectfully ask that the Committee adopt two essential changes: **maintain funding at no less than \$800 per student and remove the amendment that would exclude Baltimore City charter schools.** For students and families, this issue is not abstract. When schools must cover facilities costs out of instructional budgets, it affects classroom resources, long-term planning, and the overall quality of the learning environment.

Public charter school students are public school students. They deserve access to safe, well-maintained facilities just like their peers. HB1430 is an important step toward ensuring that all students—regardless of school type—learn in environments that support their success.

The \$800 per pupil funding level represents a meaningful and achievable baseline. It also enables Maryland to access the federal State Charter School Facilities Incentive Grant (SFIG), bringing additional resources into our state’s education system. The proposed exclusion of certain schools, however, would undermine both equity and opportunity. It would disproportionately impact students in Baltimore and could jeopardize Maryland’s eligibility for federal funding altogether.

As KIPP Baltimore’s Chief of Staff—and a longtime leader in our region’s teacher preparation and public education ecosystem—I have seen firsthand the impact school facilities have on students and educators. Buildings are more than infrastructure; they signal our belief in students’ potential and shape their ability to realize it. Maryland has long taken pride in its public schools—I urge the Senate to uphold that commitment by supporting this bill at a level that meaningfully invests in school facilities for all students.

Maryland has an opportunity to lead by establishing a fair, inclusive approach to facilities funding—one that reflects our shared commitment to all public school students.

I respectfully urge you to support HB1430 with these critical amendments.

Thank you for your consideration; please don’t hesitate to reach out with questions or to discuss further.

Sincerely,
Debbie Hollick, Ed.D.

Chief of Staff, KIPP Baltimore
Resident, Maryland District 42A

Every child grows up free to create the future they want for themselves and their communities.

2000 Edgewood Street | Baltimore, MD 21216 | P: 410-291-2583 | F: 410-826-5513 | kippbaltimore.org