

ARTHUR ELLIS, CPA
Legislative District 28
Charles County

DEPUTY MAJORITY LEADER

Finance Committee

Vice Chair, Rules Committee

Senate Chair

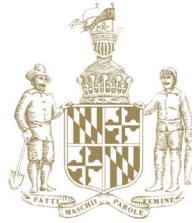
Joint Committee on the
Management of Public Funds

Senate Chair

Joint Committee on
Workers' Compensation Benefit and
Insurance Oversight

Senate Chair, Charles County Delegation

Chair, Select Committee Southern
Maryland



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Annapolis Office
James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 301
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3616
800-492-7122 Ext. 3616
Arthur.Ellis@senate.maryland.gov

District Office
3261 Old Washington Road
Waldorf, Maryland 20602

Sponsor Written Testimony: Favorable
Senate Bill 126: Charles County – Summer Academy for Mathematics and Service Pilot Program –
Establishment

February 16, 2026

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan and members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee:

I am writing to underscore my support for Senate Bill 126, which establishes a targeted, evidence-based summer mathematics intervention program in partnership with the Maryland Department of Labor and the Charles County Public Schools. This pilot program is designed to support high school students who have not yet demonstrated proficiency in Algebra or Geometry—two foundational courses essential for academic success, graduation readiness, and workforce preparedness. In Charles County, Maryland, as in many jurisdictions across our state, learning loss—exacerbated by pandemic-related disruptions—has had measurable impacts on student achievement, particularly in mathematics. Students who do not achieve proficiency in mathematics face increased barriers to graduation, postsecondary education, and entry into high-demand, high-wage careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. Equally important, Senate Bill 126 prioritizes transparency and accountability. The Department will establish performance indicators to evaluate program effectiveness.

Beyond academic outcomes, this program also contributes to workforce development goals. Senate Bill 126 is a fiscally responsible investment. It prioritizes available funding, directs resources based on student need, and ensures funds are used for direct instructional support, teacher stipends, technology, program evaluation and data collection. Overall, this legislation represents a thoughtful, accountable, and student-centered approach to addressing learning loss, improving academic outcomes, and strengthening Maryland's future workforce.

For these reasons, I respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 126.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Arthur Ellis".

Arthur Ellis, CPA