



Counties - Construction of Sidewalks and Crosswalks - Safe Alternative Routes to Public Schools

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

EDUCATION, ENERGY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

FAVORABLE

The Chesapeake Regional Association of Student Councils (CRASC) requests a favorable report on SB0158.

The Chesapeake Regional Association of Student Councils (CRASC) is the representative organization of all students enrolled in the secondary schools of AACPS, dedicated to elevating youth voice and promoting student leadership.

SB0103 supports CRASC's plank of "Walkable school zones through the implementation of crossing guards, sidewalks, and crosswalks," (Plank V, D) by requiring annual reports of where students walk without safe infrastructure such as sidewalks, crosswalks, or bike paths, and mandating counties to build the proper infrastructure to create safe routes. SB0103 ensures that students who walk or bike to school are not forced to navigate dangerous roads just because they live within their school's non-transportation radius.

SB0103 also aligns with CRASC's call for "Schools, policymakers, and the community taking a proactive stance on school safety" (Plank VI, G). Creating safe measures for walking and biking to and from school, it greatly limits the dangers of traffic that students without alternatives face. When students feel physically safe when coming to school, they are more likely to contribute to regular attendance as well as engagement in the classroom.

Accordingly, the Chesapeake Regional Association of Student Councils respectfully requests a favorable report on SB0158 from the committee.

Thank you,

William Andrione, *Secretary of Legislation*

Alma Naghedi, Vivi Chin, and Veda Puvvala, *Legislative Liaisons*

