

02/17/2026

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TESTIMONY ON SB#/0031- POSITION: FAVORABLE

School Construction and Housing – School Zones and Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances

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

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#/0031, **School Construction and Housing – School Zones and Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances**

This bill has two purposes. The first is to require collection of data to assist in making decisions on school construction and boundaries of attendance for schools in a county. The second purpose is governance of land use tied to that documented need for school construction while reserving a counties ability to determine issuance of final permits on subdivision or site development plans.

These goals are met in this bill by rRequiring each county board of education to submit a student residency and school zones report to the Department of Planning and the Interagency Commission on School Construction on or before July 1 each year, beginning on July 1, 2026; prohibiting certain adequate public facilities ordinances from delaying the processing and completion of subdivision or site development plans; and authorizing certain adequate public facilities ordinances to delay the issuance of final permits.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB#/0031.