



County Boards of Library Trustees - Membership - Student Member

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

WAYS AND MEANS

FAVORABLE

The Chesapeake Regional Association of Student Councils (CRASC) requests a favorable report on HB0586.

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.

HB0575 supports CRASC's mission by authorizing each county Board of Library Trustees to add a voting student member with a one-year term. Adding a student to the Board of Trustees ensures that one of the largest beneficiaries of the public library system, students, has a part in the decision-making process.

CRASC supports "Appointment of students to advisory committees such as school improvement teams or PTA/PTO for the purpose of ensuring communication with education" (Plank I, C) and "Student participation in decision-making processes." (Plank I, G). Authorizing a student member position on the county board of library trustees embeds youth representation in the decision-making process for libraries across the state. With students being one of the main beneficiaries of libraries and libraries being an integral part of education, giving students representation in the decision-making process aligns strongly with CRASC's platform.

Additionally, CRASC also supports "Increased student leadership opportunities within student organizations" (Plank II, A). By establishing a foundation for library boards of trustees throughout Maryland to add a student member, and defining it to one-year with voting abilities, HB0586 creates a state-wide path for students to contribute to library governance and grow in the process.

Accordingly, the Chesapeake Regional Association of Student Councils respectfully requests a favorable report on HB0586 from the committee.

Thank you,



William Andrione, *Secretary of Legislation*

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