



HB1463 – ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION – CONSTITUENT SERVICES LIAISON – ESTABLISHMENT

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WAYS AND MEANS

SUPPORT

Grace Wilson, Director of Legislation & Policy (410.440.1758)

Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) supports **HB1463 – Anne Arundel County Board of Education – Constituent Services Liaison – Establishment**. This bill requires the Board of Education of Anne Arundel County (Board) to hire a constituent services liaison prior to the beginning of the 2026-2027 school year. The liaison must: (1) act as the liaison between the county board and members of the community; (2) assist community members in accessing services of AACPS and other State and county education-related services; (3) engage community partners and local organizations to advance the strategic goals of AACPS; and (4) have experience working in special education. The president of the Board, in consultation with counsel for the Board must negotiate the terms of the employment agreement for the liaison. The liaison must be subject to removal by the president of the Board in accordance with the terms of the employment agreement. Finally, the liaison must receive an annual salary set by the Board.

AACPS and the Board support the addition of a constituent services liaison to the Office of the County Board to act as a liaison between the county board and members of the community, assist community members in accessing services in AACPS and other State and County education related services, and engage community partners and local organizations to advance the strategic goals of AACPS.

Currently, the eight Board members share one executive assistant, whose primary responsibilities focus on providing administrative and operational assistance to the Board. As a result, Board members are largely responsible for managing all constituent correspondence themselves. Unlike the County Council, the Board of Education fulfills legislative, executive, and quasi-judicial functions, including passing policies and budgets, hiring personnel such as the superintendent, and reviewing appeals. Due to these executive and quasi-judicial duties, Board members are often unable to directly engage with constituents regarding matters such as complaints and personnel issues, as it could present a conflict of interest on appeal. In these situations, constituents are redirected to the appropriate department within the superintendent's office. Establishing the constituent services liaison position would bridge these gaps, ensuring complex cases receive proper support and attention. This role is critical for serving families with high needs, many of whom lack the time or experience to navigate a complicated system. Providing this position demonstrates AACPS's commitment to offering a clear pathway for constituents to access support and services, advancing the strategic goals of the school system.

Accordingly, AACPS respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE** committee report on HB1463.