



SUPPORT: House Bill 930

Income Tax – Decoupling From Federal Changes – Education Expenses

House Ways and Means Committee

February 26, 2026

The Blueprint Coalition, a 30+ member organization representing hundreds of thousands of Marylanders and co-led by representatives of Strong Schools Maryland and the Maryland Education Coalition, is committed to ensuring the full implementation and funding of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. **The Blueprint Coalition urges a favorable vote on House Bill 930, which preserves public dollars for public schools and ensures Maryland does not participate in a new federal tax credit program that subsidizes private school tuition.**

House Bill 930 makes clear that Maryland will not opt into the federal voucher tax credit program created under recent federal law. That program provides a dollar-for-dollar federal tax credit for contributions to scholarship granting organizations that fund private school tuition. While structured as a tax mechanism, the effect is the same: it redirects public resources toward private education without requiring the same standards of accountability, transparency, or access that apply to public schools.

Maryland has made a historic commitment to strengthening public education through the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. The Blueprint represents a long-term strategy to close opportunity gaps, increase investments in educator quality, expand access to early childhood education, and provide additional resources for students with disabilities, multilingual learners, and students living in poverty. House Bill 930 aligns with that commitment by ensuring the State does not undermine its own public education system through participation in a federal privatization initiative.

Public schools in Maryland serve more than 850,000 students and are constitutionally required to provide a thorough and efficient system of free public schools. They must serve every student who walks through their doors. Private schools that would benefit from the federal tax credit program are not bound by the same obligations. They are not required to accept all students, provide the full range of special education services, or meet the same reporting and accountability requirements.

The federal voucher tax credit also poses broader fiscal risks. Federal funds support essential services in Maryland schools, including IDEA, Title I, and nutrition programs. Any federal revenue losses tied to large-scale tax credits increase pressure on these funding streams. At a time when Maryland is working to fully fund the Blueprint and stabilize school budgets, it is fiscally responsible to avoid policies that could jeopardize federal education investments.

House Bill 930 also maintains Maryland's longstanding approach to 529 college savings accounts by decoupling from federal changes that would expand tax advantages for K-12 private school expenses. Families will continue to benefit from college savings incentives without creating new subsidies for private K-12 tuition.

Maryland has chosen to invest in a public system that works for all students. The Blueprint is built on the principle that every child, regardless of race, income, disability status, language background, or zip code, deserves access to a high-quality public education. House Bill 930 reinforces that commitment and ensures Maryland does not participate in policies that weaken it.

For these reasons, we strongly urge a favorable report on House Bill 930.

Please contact Riya Gupta at riya@strongschoolsmaryland.org for additional questions.