



MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE ASIAN AMERICAN
AND PACIFIC ISLANDER CAUCUS
MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

DELEGATE LILY QI
CHAIR

DELEGATE MARK S. CHANG
FIRST VICE CHAIR

DELEGATE CHAO WU, PH.D.
SECOND VICE CHAIR

SENATOR CLARENCE K. LAM, M.D., M.P.H.
SECRETARY

DELEGATE DAVID MOON
TREASURER

DELEGATE KRISSELDA VALDERRAMA
CHAIR, LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY
COMMITTEE

DELEGATE HARRY BHANDARI, PH.D.
CHAIR, OUTREACH COMMITTEE

DELEGATE SARAH WOLEK
PARLIAMENTARIAN

TO: Delegate Jheanelle K. Wilkins, Chair
Delegate Jessica Feldmark, Vice Chair
Ways and Means Committee Members

FROM: Maryland Legislative Asian American and Pacific-Islander Caucus

DATE: 3/10/2026

RE: HB0163 - County Boards of Education - Student Technology Use
Policy - Requirements

**The AAPI Caucus supports HB0163 - County Boards of Education - Student
Technology Use Policy - Requirements**

The Maryland Legislative Asian American and Pacific Islander Caucus represents AAPI communities in the General Assembly and works to advance their legislative priorities. The Caucus respectfully supports HB0163 to require county boards of education to adopt clear policies governing student use of personal electronic devices during school hours.

HB0163 requires each county board of education to develop and adopt a policy restricting or limiting student use of personal electronic devices during school hours. The bill preserves important exceptions for uses documented in a student's education program or Section 504 plan, to monitor or address a student's health issue, or for certain educational purposes. It also requires each policy to be published on the county board's website and in student handbooks.

For Asian American and Pacific Islander students and families, clear and consistent school policies on personal electronic device use matter. Reducing distractions during the school day can help support focus, engagement, and academic success. At the same time, the bill appropriately recognizes that some students need access to devices for health-related reasons, disability accommodations, or educational purposes. Requiring these policies to be publicly available will also help families better understand school expectations and promote more consistent implementation across districts.

HB0163 is a practical step toward more focused, transparent, and supportive learning environments for all Maryland students. By requiring county boards to adopt and publish clear device-use policies, the bill will help support student learning while ensuring needed flexibility for individual circumstances.

For these reasons, the Maryland Legislative Asian-American and Pacific-Islander Caucus respectfully requests a favorable report on HB0163.