

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

2644 Riva Road • Annapolis • Maryland • 21401

BILL: SB44 VEHICLE LAWS - SCHOOL BUSES - INSPECTION, REPAIR, AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

HEARING DATE: JANUARY 17, 2018

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

POSITION: OPPOSE

CONTACT PERSON: Jeanette Ortiz, Esq., *Legislative & Policy Counsel* (410.703.5352)

The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County opposes **SB44 Vehicle Laws - School Buses - Inspection, Repair, and Maintenance Requirements**. This bill would require all school buses to comply with federal regulations intended for commercial interstate motor carriers.

Federal regulations explicitly exempt school buses unless they are, in fact, used as interstate commercial vehicles for hire. Local boards of education are responsible for funding transportation provided to students within their school systems and we maintain a strong commitment to student safety and believe that current school bus design and safety requirements already achieve a very high safety standard. The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County opposes this bill as it is unnecessary and would result in confusing redundancy. We currently adhere to comprehensive federal, State and local laws, regulations and practices to ensure that school buses remain the safest mode of transportation for our students.

Accordingly, the Board of Education of Anne Arundel County respectfully requests an **UNFAVORABLE** committee report on SB44.