

# BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

2644 Riva Road • Annapolis • Maryland • 21401

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**BILL:** SB31- State Retirement and Pension System - State Employees and Teachers - Benefits

**HEARING DATE:** JANUARY 25, 2018

**COMMITTEE:** Budget and Taxation

**POSITION:** OPPOSE

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

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The Anne Arundel County Board of Education opposes **SB31 - State Retirement and Pension System - State Employees and Teachers - Benefits**. This bill would alter local employer contributions for members of the Teachers' Pension System. It would establish a State Employees' and Teachers' Integrated Pension System and a State Employees' and Teachers' Integrated Pension System Savings Plan for individuals who are members of the Employees' Pension System or the Teachers' Pension System on or after July 1, 2019.

As with other proposals to modify the Employees' and Teachers' Pension systems, the potential adverse impact on the pension benefit an employee would receive would most certainly cause many employees who are currently eligible to retire to seriously consider doing so before the effective date of this proposed change in order to protect the benefit they have earned during their career. As a result, Anne Arundel County Public Schools could experience a significant increase in turnover before the effective date of the legislation, and would experience ongoing challenges with recruitment and retention thereafter.

Accordingly, the Board of Education of Anne Arundel County respectfully requests an **UNFAVORABLE** committee report on SB31.