

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

2644 Riva Road • Annapolis • Maryland • 21401

BILL: SB611 EDUCATION – HEALTHY SCHOOL FACILITY FUND – ESTABLISHED

HEARING DATE: FEBRUARY 27, 2018

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

POSITION: SUPPORT

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The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County supports **SB611 EDUCATION – HEALTHY SCHOOL FACILITY FUND – ESTABLISHED**. This bill would establish the Healthy School Facility Fund to provide grants to public primary and secondary schools in the State to improve the health of school facilities. The Governor would be required to include \$15 million in the fund each year in fiscal years 2018 through 2024.

The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County supports SB611 because the establishment of such a fund would help target some of the most critical facilities related concerns facing all local school systems. These grants could help address school system maintenance backlogs. The AACPS Comprehensive Maintenance Plan that was adopted by our Board cataloged a maintenance backlog estimated at more than \$326 million. As such, AACPS could effectively and efficiently utilize the opportunity of a new source of State funding to help address some of the current backlog.

Accordingly, the Board of Education of Anne Arundel County respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE** committee report on SB611.