

## BOE VOTE REQUESTED

BILL	TITLE/SYNOPSIS/RECOMMENDED POSITION
HB0023/	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Vehicle Laws - School Vehicles - Definition</b></p> <p><i>Sponsored by:</i> Delegate Lam</p> <p>Altering the definition of 'school vehicle' to include specified vehicles that meet or comply with specified standards and requirements, were originally titled and used to transport children, students, and teachers in another state, comply with the regulations on transporting children enrolled in the federally funded Head Start Program, and are used only for transporting children to and from a Head Start program.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Effective Date: October 1, 2017</p> <p><a href="http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2017RS/bills/hb/hb0023F.pdf">http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2017RS/bills/hb/hb0023F.pdf</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OPPOSE</b></p> <p>Current state law and the Code of Maryland Regulations require school systems transporting students to use buses that have been constructed to Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) specifications and additional specifications as set out by the local school system; such buses all have a Maryland identification plate affixed to the bus to evidence that they met those specifications. Buses built to Maryland specifications for purchase use by Maryland companies readily meet these specifications. However, to open up the marketplace to buses from out of state, which would have to be retrofitted to meet Maryland specifications, would be costly and raise safety concerns. Maryland school vehicles must submit to four school bus inspections each year to ensure that all vehicles are maintained at the highest level. Many other states do not maintain such strict inspection standards. Absent a guarantee of such an inspection history, a purchase of a bus from another state is fraught with safety risks.</p>
BILL	TITLE/SYNOPSIS/RECOMMENDED POSITION
SB0044/	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Records Management and Preservation - State and Local Government Units - Responsibilities</b></p> <p><i>Sponsored by:</i> Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee</p> <p>Applying specified provisions of law regarding records management and preservation to instrumentalities of the State, counties, and municipalities; altering the procedures required to be included in a program for the management of records; requiring each head of a unit to designate a records officer to carry out specified functions; requiring a records officer to notify the State Archives that records of the unit are no longer needed for the transaction of business; etc.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Effective Date: October 1, 2017</p>

<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2017RS/bills/sb/sb0044F.pdf>

**OPPOSE**

The vast majority of documents and records at Anne Arundel County Schools (AACPS) relate to AACPS' work of public business. As such, it would be a mammoth task to preserve and transfer all the covered documents AACPS creates or receives to the State Archives. As defined in Senate Bill 44, the term "records" includes any documentary materials in any form created or received by any agency in connection with the transaction of public business. The definition is overly broad.

As such, AACPS would be required to preserve and transfer immeasurable documents and materials conducted in the normal course of business. It is very difficult to fully assess the fiscal impact this proposed legislation would have on AACPS, but it would be massive. We would be required to hire several staff and purchase various technologies to extract records from our data systems, encrypt them, and transfer to State Archives. Senate Bill 44 would result in an undue burden on AACPS and other units of government. Additionally, Senate Bill 44 raises questions regarding confidentiality that are not addressed in the bill.

**BILL**

**TITLE/SYNOPSIS/RECOMMENDED POSITION**

**SB0090/**

**Public and Nonpublic Schools - Classwork and Assessment Involving Live and Dead Animals - Student Right of Refusal**

*Sponsored by:* Senator Young

Authorizing a student in a public school or nonpublic school to refuse to participate in or observe, in whole or in part, classwork or an assessment that includes specified actions conducted on a specified animal; authorizing a student to exercise a specified right of refusal on the day the classwork or assessment is scheduled to be performed; requiring a specified student to complete specified classwork or a specified assessment by an alternate educational method determined by a specified teacher for a specified purpose; etc.

Effective Date: July 1, 2017

<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2017RS/bills/sb/sb0090F.pdf>

**OPPOSE**

Senate Bill 90 is an unnecessary intrusion on local school systems' curriculum, policy, and administrative decisions. This bill is not needed as local schools can effectively accommodate students who refuse to participate in or observe the dissection of dead animals. Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) already has these accommodations in place for students, and they have been in place for at least 16 years. AACPS employs alternative methods for students to accomplish relatively the same outcome when dead creatures were the focus of the lab activity. Those alternatives include, but are not limited to, the use of models, simulations, video/webinar interactions and, reading assignments.