

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

2644 Riva Road · Annapolis · Maryland · 21401

BILL: HB102 ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION - HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS PILOT PROGRAM

HEARING DATE: FEBRUARY 2, 2017

COMMITTEE: WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

POSITION: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS

CONTACT PERSON: JEANETTE ORTIZ, ESQ., *LEGISLATIVE & POLICY COUNSEL* (410.703.5352)

The Anne Arundel County Board of Education **SUPPORTS with amendments House Bill 102 Anne Arundel County Board of Education - Human Trafficking Awareness Pilot Program**. As drafted, this bill would require the Anne Arundel County Board of Education to establish the Human Trafficking Awareness Pilot Program in Anne Arundel County. **House Bill 102** would also require the Anne Arundel County Board of Education, beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, in collaboration with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, to provide awareness and training for all school-based personnel on human trafficking, and report to the General Assembly, on or before July 1 each year, on the effectiveness of the Program.

This bill supports the worthy endeavor of providing human trafficking awareness to students. As a school system, Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) welcomes the additional resources that we would receive from **House Bill 102**. However, the training and reporting requirements in set forth in the bill would unmanageable. Training all school-based staff on this issue is an unfunded mandate that the school system cannot support at this time. Likewise, AACPS would not be able to report on the effectiveness of the Human Trafficking Program as we do not have baseline data to demonstrate the current issue and subsequently show the change as a result of the program. As such, we support amendments to the bill which remove the training and reporting requirements.

Accordingly, the Anne Arundel County Board of Education respectfully urges the Committee to adopt the proposed amendments and issue a **FAVORABLE** committee report on **House Bill 102**.