

# ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

2644 Riva Road · Annapolis · Maryland · 21401

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**BILL:** HB263 SCHOOL BUS MONITORING CAMERAS - EXCLUSION OF VEHICLE RENTAL COMPANIES - REPEAL AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT

**HEARING DATE:** MACH 30, 2017

**COMMITTEE:** JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS COMMITTEE

**POSITION:** SUPPORT

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

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The Anne Arundel County Board of Education **SUPPORTS House Bill 263 - School Bus Monitoring Cameras - Exclusion of Vehicle Rental Companies - Repeal and Notification Requirement**. This bill would repeal an exemption in law and subject a motor vehicle rental company, as the owner of a vehicle, to enforcement of violations recorded by school bus monitoring cameras.

Under current law, if a school vehicle stops on a roadway and is operating alternately flashing red lights, the driver of any other vehicle meeting or overtaking the school vehicle must stop at least 20 feet from the rear of the school vehicle, if approaching from its rear, or at least 20 feet from the front of the school vehicle, if approaching the school vehicle from its front. The driver of any vehicle meeting or overtaking the school bus may not proceed until the school vehicle resumes motion or the alternately flashing red lights are deactivated. Motor vehicle rental companies are currently exempt from being fined for a violation of the requirements set forth above. **House Bill 263** would enhance safety levels for school buses, their drivers, and their occupants by eliminating the exemption that presently exists for motor vehicle rental companies. Passage of this bill would help school systems and local law enforcement agencies to protect the health and welfare of Maryland's most precious resource, our students.

Accordingly, the Anne Arundel County Board of Education respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE** committee report on **House Bill 263**.