The Anne Arundel County Board of Education OPPOSES Senate Bill 269 which adds Veterans Day to the public school holidays when school cannot be open. Veterans’ Day is better honored and observed through the opening of schools so that schools can host, and students can experience Veterans’ Day speakers, assemblies, and special ceremonies on this day. This issue has repeatedly been discussed with the Anne Arundel County Public Schools Calendar Committee over the years and overwhelmingly parents and active military members report they want to observe Veterans’ Day by opening schools. Additionally, the Anne Arundel County Board of Education opposes any legislation to preclude the authority of the local school boards to determine the parameters of the school calendar, acting in open session.

Accordingly, the Anne Arundel County Board of Education urges the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee to issue an UNFAVORABLE Report on Senate Bill 269.