



HB1206 MARYLAND LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM CENTER - DATA MATCHING

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WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

OPPOSE

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The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County opposes **HB1206 Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center - Data Matching**. This bill establishes a framework for two data transfer protocols related to the Maryland Longitudinal Data System (MLDS) Center research as follows: 1) the geocoding of public school students' home addresses to the census tract and block level by each local school system, as specified; and 2) the matching of specified student information to tax information by the Comptroller. The Comptroller must comply with specified data privacy and security standards including the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). For each of fiscal 2021 and 2022, the Governor must appropriate \$100,000 to the center to develop the geocoding protocol.

While well-intentioned, the proposed legislation raises several concerns for AACPS, including:

- How would this bill control for mobility? AACPS has about a 30% to 40% mobility rate, which will make the geolocation provision in the bill unhelpful.
- The bill would need to articulate a specific date or more specific language regarding enrollment. AACPS officially monitors enrollment three times a year.
- Who will conduct the conversion as would be required by the legislation, and what software would be used? Based on upgrades with the AACPS system, there will be significant conversion issues. Addressing these issues would likely take weeks, if not months.
- The vast majority of our students would not have workforce data to report outside of part-time jobs or internships.
- The use of the term "de-identified data" is too general.
- AACPS does not collect social security numbers for any student. In fact, it would be illegal for a school system to request this information.
- AACPS does not maintain official information on "program of study."

Accordingly, the Board of Education of Anne Arundel County respectfully requests an **UNFAVORABLE** committee report on HB1206.