



HB1103 EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS - THREAT ASSESSMENT REPORT

March 1, 2019

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

OPPOSE

Jeanette Ortiz, Esq., Legislative & Policy Counsel (410.703.5352)

The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County opposes **HB1103 Education - Public Schools - Threat Assessment Report**. This bill requires each public school in the State to keep a hard copy of 1) the most recent version of the School Shooter: A Threat Assessment Perspective report published by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), or 2) any similar threat assessment report model developed and published by the FBI in the school. The school principal and each school counselor must keep a hard copy of the report in the school office. If a local school system (LSS) develops an emergency plan, the LSS must distribute the report as a part of any training materials related to the LSS's emergency plan and make the plan available to a school staff member on request.

While well-intentioned, this legislation is duplicative and unnecessary. In 2018, the Maryland General Assembly passed the Maryland Safe to Learn Act. The new law addresses several school safety issues, including safety evaluations and behavior threat assessments, staff training, and school policy on behavior threat assessments. AACPS supported that legislation and played an integral role in the development of the law. In fact, Superintendent George Arlotto and AACPS staff were part of the group that recently developed the State model policy for behavior threat assessment, which school systems must adopt.

Accordingly, the Board of Education of Anne Arundel County respectfully requests an **UNFAVORABLE** committee report on HB1103.