The Anne Arundel County Board of Education SUPPORTS with amendments Senate Bill 232 Education - Pregnant and Parenting Students - Attendance Policy. This bill would specify that a student's absence from school due to the student's pregnancy or parenting needs is a lawful absence and require each county board of education to develop a written attendance policy for pregnant and parenting students that meets specified requirements outlined in the bill.

As amended, the bill would require each county board of education to adopt a policy to address the needs of pregnant and parenting students. Anne Arundel County Public Schools has policy and regulation that is aligned with State attendance guidelines. We appreciate the amendments to the original bill which will help to ensure local autonomy and allow school systems to determine how best to address their particular student needs, as they are the entities best equipped to make these decisions.

Accordingly, the Anne Arundel County Board of Education respectfully requests a FAVORABLE committee report on Senate Bill 232.