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BILL: House Bill 1092
TITLE: Education – County Boards of Education – Disclosures and Requirements
DATE: February 26, 2020
POSITION: OPPOSE
COMMITTEE: Ways and Means Committee
CONTACT: John R. Woolums, Esq.

The Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE), representing all of the state's local boards of education, opposes House Bill 1092.

MABE opposes this bill because it would require a duplicative process for reporting school system expenditures for several of the State's largest school systems, in a manner that is inconsistent with legislation enacted only last year.

In 2019, House Bill 355 was enacted to, in part, require the Department of Information Technology to operate a searchable website that must contain the same payment data required under this bill, but for all school systems. As the Fiscal and Policy Note explains, between 2009 and 2015 financial reporting transparency bills were enacted as local legislation applicable in 5 of Maryland's 24 local school systems. In light of the historical progression from one school system in 2009 to all 24 in 2019, and the costs to be incurred by any school system mandated to reinstate its own reporting system, MABE requests that the law not be amended at this time or in the manner proposed in this bill.

For these reasons, MABE requests an unfavorable report on House Bill 1092.