



HB1074 EDUCATION - COLLECTIVE BARGAINING - CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEES - CLASS SIZE

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WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

OPPOSE

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Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) opposes **HB1074 Education - Collective Bargaining - Certificated Employees - Class Size**. This bill repeals the prohibition against a public school employer and employee organization negotiating the maximum number of students assigned to a class during collective bargaining.

This bill encroaches on local board authority and local school system decision-making. Management and instructional decisions regarding the number of students assigned to a class are based on myriad factors that should not be addressed through contract language. Establishing class size requirements within a collective bargaining agreement to negotiate smaller class size will be a costly arrangement, especially with the growing student population in AACPS. A mandatory negotiation requirement restricts the school administration's decision-making regarding the most effective use of resources, including allocations for staff, space, with existing limited funding. School systems are not self-funded but depend on federal, State, and county governments for funding which could create significant issues in instances where insufficient funding prevents the Board from meeting class size requirements. Local board of education and local superintendent authority should be maintained to make decisions pertaining to appropriate allocations of resources especially in instance where the union's interest is not aligned with managements and do not fully represent the best interest of students.

Accordingly, AACPS respectfully requests an **UNFAVORABLE** committee report on HB1074.