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BILL NO.: **SB 515**

TITLE: Criminal Procedure – Registered Sex Offenders – Entry Onto School Property

SPONSOR: Senator Klausmeier

COMMITTEE: Education, Health and Environmental Affairs

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 17, 2021

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 515 Environment – Criminal Procedure – Registered Sex Offenders – Entry Onto School Property. This legislation would repeal an exception authorizing that under certain circumstances a student who is a registered sex offender can enter a property authorized for public or nonpublic elementary or secondary education.

From academics to extracurricular activities, school is perhaps the most important part of a young person’s life. These crucial formative experiences, however, can be hindered should a student feel unsafe on campus. This measure will prohibit a student registered as a sex offender from entering any elementary or secondary school at all times. Additionally, local boards of education would have to develop a policy that enables school aged sex offenders to continue receiving an education by participating in an alternative program. SB 515 seeks to make sure that students attending school in Baltimore County do not have to worry about assault or abuse and provides an added level of comfort to parents and school staff.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 515. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Director of Government Affairs at cconner@baltimorecountymd.gov.