



MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential

850 Hungerford Drive ♦ Room 123 ♦ Rockville, Maryland 20850

BILL: SB0104 (Crossfiled with HB0083)
TITLE: Public and Nonpublic Schools - Electric Retractable Room Partitions -
Operation Requirements
DATE: 3/24/2021
POSITION: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT
COMMITTEE: Ways and Means
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The Montgomery County Board of Education (Board) **supports** SB0104 **with amendments**.

MCPS agrees with the overall principles of this bill and recommends the following amendments to the legislation:

- Add (B): No student will ever be permitted to operate any type of electric retractable room partition.
- Rename existing (B) to ""&""(C)
- Insert new (C) (2): If the doors are not equipped with the safety sensors as required in (C) (1), partitions with a two-key mechanism that stops the partition immediately if either of the two keys are released may be operated by two school employees,""&"" only if schools develop a written process that requires:
 - Both persons operating the keys must be in a position to view the entire area around the moving wall;
 - Both must simultaneously turn and hold the keys during the entire operation;
 - Post instructions to operate the partitions;
 - Create a key management plan;
 - Develop provisions for maintaining student supervision and safety while doors are in operation; and
 - Require that students and other bystanders stand next to a fixed wall at least 1""&""5 feet away from the moving room partition.
- Insert as (C)(3): If there is not a safety sensor or two-key mechanism, doors may only be operated when:
 - Change existing (B)(2) to be labeled as (C)(3)(a)
 - Change existing (B)(3) to be labeled as (C)(3)(b)

The Board **supports** this legislation **with amendments** and urges a favorable report.