



**HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE**

**House Bill 820**

**County Boards of Education – Computer Science Courses – Reporting Requirements**

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**Nancy Shapiro**

**Associate Vice Chancellor for Education and Outreach**

**Special Assistant to the Chancellor for P-20 Education**

**Unfavorable**

Chair Kaiser, Vice Chair Washington and committee members, thank you for the opportunity to share our thoughts on House Bill 820. The bill requires each county board of education, beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, to submit a report to the State Board of Education and the General Assembly on computer science courses offered in public schools in the county in the prior school year.

The requirements asked for in House Bill 820 places a significant burden on the local school systems. Each local school system reports this data annually to the Maryland State Department of Education and then, the data is sent to the Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center (MLDSC).

In 2018, the General Assembly passed legislation entitled, “*Securing the Future: Computer Science for All,*” and the Maryland Center for Computing Education (MCCE) was established. The law mandates that all Maryland public high schools offer a high-quality computer science course by the 2021-2022 school year. The law also specifies for enrollment increases to include the demographic groups that are underrepresented in the field of computer science as identified by the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

MCCE created a series of comprehensive [computing education dashboards](#) as part of an external researcher project with the use of data from the MLDSC. The dashboards include 21 webpages enabling access to school, school system, and state level data as part of an external researcher project with the use of data from the MLDSC. The dashboards include 21 webpages enabling access to school, school system, and state level data. The collaborative process to create these dashboards included meeting individually with each local school system to review all computing data since 2013.

While the intent is commendable the University System of Maryland asks that the committee view House Bill 820 in the legislative and statutory light of achievements already attained.

Thank you for allowing the USM to share our thoughts.