

BILL: Senate Bill 172
TITLE: Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2017
POSITION: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS
DATE: March 1, 2017
COMMITTEE: Budget and Taxation Committee
CONTACT: John R. Woolums, Esq.

The Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE), representing all twenty-four local boards of education, supports Senate Bill 172, with amendments to restore proposed cuts to education programs.

MABE supports restoring funding for the following programs suffering funding losses under the BRFA, including proposals to:

- Repeal the mandate that the Public School Opportunities Enhancement Program be funded at \$7.5 million annually in fiscal 2018 through 2021;
- Repeal the mandate that the Teacher Induction, Retention, and Advancement Pilot Program be funded at \$5.0 million annually;
- Repeal the mandate that the Next Generation Scholars of Maryland Program be funded at \$5.0 million annually through fiscal 2023;
Repeal the mandate that the State match county teacher stipends for teachers who hold National Board Certification (NBC); and
- Reduce the maximum State match for stipends for teachers who hold NBC and work in a comprehensive needs school from \$4,000 to \$2,000.

MABE urges the General Assembly to restore funding for these and other educational programs to support the highest quality teaching and learning opportunities for all of Maryland's public school students.

For these reasons, MABE supports Senate Bill 172 with amendments to restore funding for the programs listed above.