

2020 Maryland Legislative Update

We have been working with Maryland PTA's Advocacy Committee on many bills this legislative session. Below are just a few examples:

HB = House Bill SB = Senate Bill

- 1) HB 1/ SB 1- Built to Learn Act of 2020- Requiring Maryland Stadium Authority to issue up to \$2.2 billion in revenue bonds for school construction projects over several years. The bonds would be backed by an annual payment of \$125 million from the Education Trust Fund. **Support**
- 2) HB 4/SB 208- Rifles and Shotguns - Secondary Transactions- Requiring background checks anytime someone buys a rifle or shotgun and closes a loophole in Maryland law that allows private sales of long guns without background checks. **Support**
- 3) HB 184- Special Education - Judicial Actions - Attorney's Fees and Related Costs- Authorizing a court to award attorney's fees and related costs to the parent of a child with a disability who is the prevailing party in a certain special education proceeding. **Support**
- 4) HB202- Establishment of Restorative Schools Fund and Grants- Establishing the Restorative Schools Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund to provide grants to local school systems and individual schools for training on and implementation and evaluation of restorative approaches that build and sustain positive learning communities. **Support**
- 5) HB208- Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Product- Requiring each county board of education to ensure that each public school provide, at no charge to students, menstrual hygiene products via dispensers in the restrooms at the school. **Support**

Below are some bills specific to Baltimore County:

- 1) HB 595- Baltimore County Board of Education - Student Member – Voting- Authorizing the student member of the Baltimore County Board of Education to vote on matters relating to capital and operating budgets.
- 2) HB 598- Baltimore County Board of Education - Student Member – Scholarship- Increasing to \$7,500 the amount of the scholarship granted a certain student member of the Baltimore County Board of Education.
- 3) HB 599- Baltimore County Board of Education - Student Member - Selection- Requiring the student member of the Baltimore County Board of Education to be elected by certain middle school and high school students in accordance with procedures established by the Baltimore County public school system.