

25/26-GA-12

Spontaneous

Resolution

[SB-0031 \(HB-0337\)](#)

Title: School Construction and Housing – School Zones and Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances

Sponsored by: Senator Lam

Committee Assignment: Education, Energy, and the Environment

FOR prohibiting local *Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances (APFOs)* from delaying planning and approval phases due to school overcrowding; permitting counties to delay final building permits if school capacity is insufficient; requiring local county boards of education to submit annual reports on school zones, student residencies, and school capacities to improve long-term planning.

Proposed Position: SUPPORT

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WHEREAS, Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances (APFOs) are essential growth management tools designed to phase development approvals to ensure that school infrastructure is in place before new housing is completed; and

WHEREAS, the bill requires county boards of education to submit an annual Student Residency and School Zones Report starting July 1st, 2026, which must include school zone boundaries, student residence locations, and the State-Rated Capacity (SRC) percentage for every school; and

WHEREAS, the Maryland Department of Planning (2025 APFO Inventory) shows that school adequacy requirements have been the primary driver of development moratoria in Maryland, illustrating that without these data reports, schools frequently fall into severe overcrowding; and

WHEREAS, the bill authorizes counties to delay final housing permits if school capacity is inadequate, ensuring that students are not forced into overcrowded classrooms due to rapid residential growth; and

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WHEREAS, MASC’s platform states “[r]egular maintenance of school grounds and facilities (Plank IV; J), “[i]nfrastructure that prioritizes student and staff safety” (Plank IV; N), and the “[r]eduction of class sizes where needed” (Plank III; X); therefore, be it hereby

RESOLVED that the Maryland Association of Student Councils supports SB-0031

“Infrastructure and Development - Schools” *Maryland Department of Planning*