

Open Work Session

**Letter of Support for House Bill 72 – County Boards of Education Student Transportation Vehicles
January 19, 2021**

Mr. Desmond Hughes, Director of Transportation Services for Wicomico County Schools, came before Council via Zoom videoconference, and said he is asking Council for a letter of support much like they gave last year. He said the Bill is the same and in the same format as presented last year. He said it passed in the House Chamber, but due to the pandemic abruptly ending the Session, it did not make it to the Senate. He said it was pre-filed by Delegate Anderton again this year, and is expected to be fast tracked through the House since it passed last year in the Chamber, but Delegate Anderton is requesting a letter of support from Wicomico County.

Mr. Hughes said he would like to mention that last year when they presented to testify to the Ways and Means Committee, they liked the Legislation so much that it was expanded from just Wicomico County as it was originally presented, and actually expanded Statewide to incorporate all 24 jurisdictions. He said they look forward to it being fast tracked again through the House and passed in the Senate as well.

Mr. Hastings said he is looking at Bill 72 online, and it does not currently specify Wicomico County, so theoretically this would be Statewide, and he assumes that was not the intended purpose. He then asked if there is another way it determines which jurisdiction this is, to which Mr. Hughes responded, as he said, last year when they presented this in its original format, it was just exclusively for Wicomico County. He said it was modified in the Ways and Means Committee last year, and re-filed again this year, but this year for the entire State as it was modified last year.

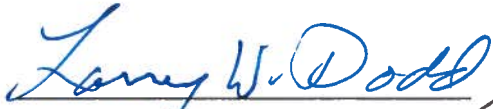
There was a unanimous consensus to send the letter of support. There was no further discussion.

Signatures on next page

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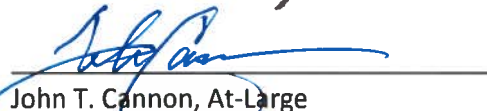
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Larry W. Dodd, President, District 3



Joe Holloway, Vice President, District 5



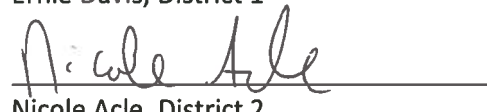
John T. Cannon, At-Large



William R. McCain, At-Large



Ernie Davis, District 1



Nicole Acle, District 2



Josh Hastings, District 4



Laura Hurley, Council Administrator