



## MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

850 Hungerford Drive ♦ Room 123 ♦ Rockville, Maryland 20850



Bill: Senate Bill 595  
Title: Dual Enrollment - Middle School Students  
Committee: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs  
Date: February 24, 2016  
Position: **SUPPORT**  
Contact: Michael Durso, President, Montgomery County Board of Education

The Montgomery County Board of Education supports Senate Bill 595.

This bill would alter the grade that certain students must complete in order for certain public institutions of higher education to accept the student for special admission from Grade 7 to Grade 5 and authorize certain middle school students to participate in certain dual enrollment programs. It also repeals the requirement that certain students must earn a score of 1200 on a certain test in order for certain public institutions of higher education to accept the student for special admission.

As the law is currently written, the term "secondary" is used to indicate those students eligible to dually enroll in an institution of higher learning and participate in dual enrollment programs. The recommended change associated with this amendment clarifies the term that secondary refers to both middle and high school students. This change aligns with the current Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) definition. Hence, while the change will provide clarification of the term secondary statewide, it will not impact the current MCPS practice as it relates to dually enrolled students and our understanding of secondary students. Secondary students who wish to dually enroll must meet a variety of requirements as outlined by the respective postsecondary institution. The score of 1200 is not currently required. Repealing this requirement within the law will not impact MCPS.

For these reasons, we support this bill and ask for a favorable report.