

BALTIMORE CITY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Stephanie Rawlings-Blake
Mayor, City of Baltimore

Shanaysha M. Sauls, Ph.D.
Chair, Baltimore City Board of
School Commissioners

Tisha Edwards
Interim Chief Executive Officer

October 24, 2013

The Honorable Helen Holton, Chair
Budget and Appropriations Committee
City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

Re: City Council Bill 13-0282

Dear Madam Chair,

The Baltimore City Public School System is in support of City Council Bill 13-0282, Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation for Baltimore City Public Schools in the amount of \$2,925,582, introduced by Council President Bernard "Jack" Young. The supplementary appropriation will allow the City of Baltimore to meet its maintenance of effort (MOE) funding required under state law and to be certified as meeting MOE by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).

Due to a miscalculation of enrollment, the City of Baltimore provided an insufficient amount in its budget to meet the MOE requirement for FY 2014. While Baltimore City and City Schools are working to resolve this issue, MSDE guidance indicates that the error cannot be corrected this year. Therefore, the City of Baltimore must submit this supplemental appropriation in order for the City not to be found in non-compliance with MOE. City Schools will continue to work with Baltimore City and MSDE in resolving this situation.

Victor De La Paz, the Chief Financial Officer for City Schools will be in attendance at the scheduled hearing and will be prepared to comment. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. De La Paz at 410-396-8745 or Dawana Merritt Sterrette, Legislative Liaison at 410-396-8709.

Sincerely,



Tisha Edwards
Interim Chief Executive Officer



F