


F R O M	Name & Title	Dr. Ihuoma Emenuga, Commissioner of Health	Health Department AGENCY REPORT	
	Agency Name & Address	Health Department 1001 E. Fayette Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202		
	Subject/ Position	24-0535 – Bond Issue – School Loan \$55,000,000 Favorable		

To: President and Members
of the City Council
c/o 409 City Hall

June 28, 2024

The Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) is pleased to have the opportunity to review Council Bill #24-0535, entitled, “Bond Issue - School Loan - \$55,000,000.” The purpose of this legislation is to allow for a municipal bond issuance of \$55,000,000 for acquisition of land and/or property and construction and renovation of school facilities.

BCHD encourages the renovation and construction of Baltimore City public school facilities. The Baltimore City Public School System contracts with BCHD’s Bureau of School Health to provide services to nearly 76,000 students through 159 school health suites. Additionally, BCHD currently operates School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs) at four schools: Augusta Fells Savage Institute of Visual Arts, City Springs Elementary/Middle School, Digital Harbor High School, and REACH Partnership School. SBHCs are primary care health centers that offer preventive, primary acute and chronic, and mental health care services to students in addition to the standard services offered in all school health suites.

Improved school facilities will assist BCHD in delivering care to Baltimore City’s public school students. Additionally, the renovation or construction of new buildings provides an opportunity to upgrade the school health spaces with state-of-the-art equipment and technology that address the increasingly complex health needs of Baltimore’s students. Therefore, BCHD requests a **favorable** report on Council Bill #24-0535.