



# MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

850 Hungerford Drive ♦ Room 123 ♦ Rockville, Maryland 20850



Bill: House Bill 453  
Title: Maryland Education Credit  
Date: February 25, 2016  
Committee: Ways and Means  
Position: **OPPOSE**  
Contact: Michael Durso, President, Montgomery County Board of Education

The Montgomery County Board of Education opposes House Bill 453.

This bill authorizes a business tax credit up to \$200,000 for contributions to student assistance organizations that award financial assistance funds to students to attend private schools. Since public schools do not charge for tuition or books, this tuition assistance is only for private school programs.

Nonpublic schools are subject neither to state accountability measures nor to the same legal requirements as public schools. With the increasing unmet needs in public schools, state funds should be targeted to address the needs of public school students, not to support private schools. Instituting a tax credit would drain away increasingly scarce public resources that rightfully should be spent to serve the public.

On behalf of my colleagues on the Board of Education, thank you for your consideration and we urge an unfavorable report.