



January 31, 2014

The Honorable County Executive Rushern L. Baker, III
14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3050

The Honorable County Executive Kevin Kamenetz
Historic Courthouse Mezzanine
400 Washington Ave
Towson, MD 21204

The Honorable County Executive Ike Leggett
101 Monroe Street, Second Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear County Executives Baker, Kamenetz and Leggett:

Not only am I honored to support you in your effort to secure additional education funds for school construction, as a candidate for Governor, I am committed to working with you to pursue legislation that would allow each county to secure extra state funds for school construction under appropriate matching conditions.

Schools from Washington County to Somerset County are living with long overdue and much needed repairs and some jurisdictions are unable to meet the needs of the growing student population, permanently relying on portable classrooms designed as a temporary solution. We need a systematic approach to school construction funding with established criteria that enables us to improve learning conditions across the state. Our children have the right to a quality education in an environment that supports learning. Indeed, they deserve the best environment possible for learning. We demonstrate to our children that we value their education by showing them that we value the places they go to learn.

I strongly support your fiscally responsible approach to improving our public schools, one that puts in place a method to fund schools in other jurisdictions in the years to come. Your proposal enables the state to support county-led efforts, at primarily county expense, to obtain construction bonds that will go directly to schools and not be diverted to projects for special interests. This investment of state resources will be repaid tenfold

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in the increased success of our students.

I appreciate your invitation to work with you on this effort and look forward to speaking with you about specific ways in which I can be helpful.

Sincerely,



Douglas F. Gansler
Maryland Attorney General

Cc: Baltimore County Delegation
Montgomery County Delegation
Prince George's County Delegation