



## **Fully Fund Original Kirwan Bill – Budget Conferees**

The League of Women Voters of Maryland (LWVMD) has supported a foundation program based on a weighted per pupil formula supported from general state revenues at a level high enough to eliminate inequities since 1972.

LWVMD supports the Maryland General Assembly leadership's proposed funding plan to add \$325 million in FY 2020 and \$750 million in FY 2021 to support [SB 1030/HB 1413](#) **The Blueprint for Maryland's Future**, based on the Maryland Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education (Kirwan Commission) interim report recommendations for 2019.

We especially support some of the provisions of the bill that address eliminating inequities such as early support and interventions for young children and their families, including full-day prekindergarten that is free for low-income 3- and 4-year-olds; high-quality and diverse teachers and school leaders, including elevating the teaching profession to be comparable to other fields with the same education requirements and with comparable compensation; additional resources, supports, and services for students who need them to achieve the College and Career Readiness (CCR) standard, including English learners, students with disabilities, and students from low-income families, with particular attention to the Community Schools programs for students in schools with high concentrations of poverty.

**Budget conferees are working this weekend to resolve differences between the House and Senate versions of HB 100, the Budget Bill that would fund the Kirwan recommendations.**

**Please call and then email the following leaders and conferees and ask them to fully fund the Kirwan recommendations and not to cut \$100 million from the special education provisions.**

Senate President Thomas Miller D27 - Prince George's, Calvert, Charles

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Senate Budget and Taxation Chair Nancy King D39 - Montgomery Co

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Senate Budget and Taxation Vice Chair Bill Ferguson D46 - Baltimore City

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House Speaker Michael Busch D30A - Anne Arundel

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House Ways and Means Chair Anne Kaiser D14 Montgomery Co

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House Appropriations Chair Maggie McIntosh D43 - Baltimore City

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