

Maryland State Conference National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Post Office Box 9702 ♦ Arnold, Maryland 21012

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June 17, 2016

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Youth and College Division President Jaylen Vines The Honorable Larry Hogan Governor of the State of Maryland State House 100 State Circle Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Governor Hogan:

The Maryland State Conference of NAACPs is seriously concerned about the availability of air conditioning in Maryland's public schools. We are also aware that the problem disproportionately impacts Baltimore City and Baltimore County as well as the overall controversy related to the issue. However, the Maryland Constitution assures all students an opportunity for education. And, one of the primary factors impacting students' education is the learning environment in schools. In addition to safe and orderly learning environments, settings in schools must be conducive to learning and the health of students. Students in classrooms that are so hot that their well-being is in jeopardy is absolutely unacceptable. For too long, children, teachers, and staff have been subjected to schools and classrooms that have jeopardized their health, let alone hampered educational progress. The MSC NAACP asserts that in this instance the health of these individuals be recognized as a neglected civil right. Therefore, we support efforts to have every school in this State provide air conditioning as soon as possible by any necessary means and that this be considered an immediate funding priority for the State and every jurisdiction.

Sincerely,

Gerald G. Stansbury

President

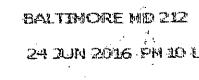
c: Comptroller Peter Franchot

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Honorable Peter V. R. Franchot Maryland Comptroller Goldstein Treasury Building 80 Calvert Street Annapolis, MD 21404 - 0466