



## Maryland and GASB Statement No. 77

Contact: Christine Wen  
[chris@goodjobsfirst.org](mailto:chris@goodjobsfirst.org)

**Who in state government is most likely to influence GASB 77 disclosure?** Legislative Auditor Gregory Hook. Maryland's Legislative Auditor is principally charged with auditing state agencies and entities receiving state funds. The Local Government Article, Section 16-307 of the Maryland Code, gives the Legislative Auditor the additional responsibility of annually reviewing the audit opinions of local governments and taxing authorities. Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot has no direct authority over local governments but has been an outspoken advocate for government transparency and submitted a comment strongly supportive of GASB 77 (see below.)

### **Who commented on the Exposure Draft from Maryland?**

- Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot issued a broadly supportive [comment](#), calling on GASB to extend disclosure to include future year liabilities.
- The Democracy Collaborative submitted a broadly supportive [comment](#)
- The Annie E. Casey Foundation joined eight other foundations in a supportive [comment](#) that especially praised school districts disclosing revenues they lose to tax abatements.
- State Delegate Sheila Hixson, Baltimore City Council members Bill Henry and Sharon Middleton, Rockville City Council member Tom Moore, Montgomery County Commissioner Hans Riemer, and New Carrollton City Council member Jim Wildoner joined 56 other local public officials in submitting a [comment](#) broadly supportive of GASB 77.

**Does the state's most recent CAFR include GASB 77 disclosure?** Yes.

**How many counties, municipalities and school districts in the state are required to conform with GAAP and therefore GASB Statements?** According to GASB's [research brief](#) titled "State and Local Government Use of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for General Purpose External Financial Reporting" (2008), all of Maryland's 23 counties 157 municipalities and 23 school districts are required by state law to use GAAP accounting. Public universities are not required to follow GAAP, but all do anyway.

**How many counties, municipalities and school districts reported on GASB 77 disclosures in 2018?** 13 of 35 sampled counties/municipalities and 0 of 24 sampled school districts.

**Is there an office that collects CAFRS from counties/cities/school districts?** The Office of Legislative Audit (OLA) gathers audit statements from all counties, cities and taxing districts. The report highlights problems including non-compliance with GAAP and situations indicating fiscal stress. No local government CAFRs are posted centrally online. OLA audits each school district every six years, and [posts](#) reports of its review.

**Does the state government or do academic/NGO institutions provide technical assistance on GAAP, GASB or completing CAFRs?** None.

**Does state government monitor fiscal stress within county/municipality/school district?** The Maryland Assembly's [Office of Legislative Audits](#) monitors fiscal stress among local governments.

**Which state office is responsible for completing state's CAFR?** Maryland General Accounting Division, Office of the State Comptroller.

**For more information on GASB 77, visit:** <http://www.goodjobsfirst.org/gasb>

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