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Bowie Council Votes to Urge Maryland to Settle Lawsuit in favor of HBCUs

Last night, the City of Bowie became the first municipality in Maryland to support Bowie State University and a coalition of alumni from Maryland Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to endorse their proposed settlement of the longstanding lawsuit against the State of Maryland. The settlement would provide \$557 million to these institutions over the next ten years.

The resolution, which was adopted unanimously by the Council, urges the Governor and the Maryland General Assembly to support the ruling of the US District Court for the District of Maryland and the offer made by the Coalition to settle the lawsuit over equitable State funding of higher learning institutions in Maryland. (The Coalition for Equity and Excellence in Maryland Higher Education includes alumni from the State's historically black colleges and universities. The schools are not a party to the litigation.)

In comments before the vote, Mayor Pro Tem Adrian Bofo urged his colleagues to make a historic statement to support a learning institution in our backyard and to support HBCUs across the State of Maryland by encouraging settlement of the lawsuit.

The vote took place at a Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council on Monday, January 6, 2020. The resolution may be viewed at www.cityofbowie.org/hbcu_resolution.

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