

I strongly oppose HB 0832.

HB 0832 is being rushed and will have the unintended consequence of further isolating the Maryland Homeschool Association (MDHSA), headed by Alessa Keener. <https://mdhsa.com/>

MDHSA has been a voice for progressive homeschoolers, and I've appreciated the work they've done in the past. Homeschooling should not be a partisan issue.

Homeschoolers are parents working hard to do right for their children. We don't need to start a bureaucracy, codified in Maryland law, to co-opt our voices.

Why create controversy by codifying legislation before constituents have been able to provide input?

- There are far more effective ways to represent homeschoolers.
- There are far more effective ways to connect homeschoolers with valuable resources for their children.
- There are far more effective ways to promote togetherness & heal political divides.

1) Perhaps this bill hasn't been thought through? Perhaps Alessa Keener thought that she had a sense of what MD homeschool parents needed? Perhaps Delegate Ruth assumed that MDHSA represented a larger share of homeschool families?

2) Perhaps it has been thoroughly considered by MDHSA, and is a veiled attempt to grab formal power by Alessa Keener and Delegate Ruth to "pull back the curtain" and start bringing homeschooling families under unasked for bureaucracy.

What delegate Ruth does next will reveal her intentions.