

HB832 Written Testimony,

Dear Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

I am a lifelong resident of Baltimore County and writing to you today out of grave concern as it relates to HB832. Maryland has been my home and a place up until recently, I have been proud to call my home. My family has been here for many generations and we have worked hard to build a life for our family.

After hundreds of calls and emails to Delegate Ruth's office to withdraw this bill, she didn't listen to the residents of Maryland and pushed forward with the bill. And therefore, it continues to be heard by this committee. Parents across this great state do not need or want more government overreach when it comes to homeschooling. One of the main reason parents even consider homeschooling is they aren't happy with the curriculum, style and systems put in place by government. What incentives does the government have to implement additional tension on the existing strained educational system?

After all of the students were at home last year due to lockdowns, parent's eyes were opened to the many inadequacies in the public education system. Many parents across the state decided to homeschool or move to private. Now, the State wants to impose additional regulations and work groups to tell parents how to educate their children? The answer is NO.

If we have learned anything this year, parents will do anything in their power to raise their children and make decisions as it is best for their family. We do not need the government to regulate. We also do not need representatives from all over the state deciding what is best for our children.

Let's say we did need the government to assist in homeschooling. Where did the data come from on who would be on the oversight committee? Why are these appointed positions? I could keep asking you questions but best to save time and simply ask you to vote NO. Parents are ready, willing and able to make the best decisions for their families, children and students.