

2/28/22

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Angela Shafer and I am a homeschool parent of two living in Myersville (Frederick County). I am writing in response to bill HB832 brought before the Ways and Means committee by Delegate Sheila Ruth.

After reading what the bill entails and seeing how quickly it has been rushed before committee I am certain that this is not a piece of legislature that should be passed. It is in no way representative of the large community of homeschoolers in the state of Maryland. We do not lack in resources and do not require funding or additional aid from the state. In short, we only want to be able to freely educate our children in the way we see fit.

While I do not think that Delegate Ruth sees this bill as potentially detrimental to the MD homeschool community, I cannot see the need for further government interference regarding the way we educate our children. Due to current MD homeschool laws, we already have plenty of guidance and oversight through private umbrellas as well as county school boards and HB832 would only add an unnecessary layer of bureaucracy.

Rather than create a committee to unnecessarily monitor a thriving group of homeschool families, please reroute attention and money to MD public schools that need it. Supporting HB832 will only waste valuable resources that could be put to good use elsewhere.

Thank you for your time and attention to this very important matter!

Angela Shafer
Myersville, MD.