

March 1, 2022

RE: Opposition to HB 0832

Dear Delegates,

I am opposed to HB 0832 because it is unnecessary, limits the ability of grassroots homeschooling parents and advocates to be heard, and is therefore a threat to the entire homeschooling community.

HB 0832 is unnecessary. There are various groups throughout the State of Maryland who represent different interests. These often have their own channels of communication with the Maryland State Board of Education. If the Homeschool Advisory Council was created, it would propose to represent all the different voices of homeschoolers, which it cannot do. Because of its "official" status, the grassroots efforts of homeschool parents and advocates would be more likely to be ignored or not carry as much weight as they currently do. The proposed Homeschool Advisory Council would, maybe unintentionally, threaten the rights of homeschoolers by limiting the voices that are actually heard. We do not need more government oversight.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Olivia Deboeck  
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