

**March 28, 2023**

**EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT, AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

I am writing in **FULL OPPOSITION OF HB119/SB199.**

I share the opinion of the Maryland State Board of Education, Maryland Association of Boards of Education, many (if not ALL) of the county Boards of Education in Maryland, and many others.

These bills, in original form were an extreme overreach into the local agencies where “the people” elect representative to support community values. With the amendments, this bill codifies, into law, the sole power of education in the state of Maryland to one position, void of any concern for individuals in our state, the Maryland State Superintendent. Currently, that position is filled with a person whose values and beliefs are fanatically different than many of the individuals in our state. Next, the position could possibly be filled by someone who has completely different extreme values and beliefs.

Parents have the fundamental right to the upbringing, of their children. Public education is a large part of the lives of most children in Maryland. Parents have a right to vote for candidates in their communities who align with their values and beliefs. These elected officials should be the ones making the decisions on the education in each community, not one person with his/her own set of radical values and beliefs.

Please **OPPOSE HB119/SB199.**

SINCERELY,

JENNIFER ADAMS