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CECIL COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Cecil County Administration Building
200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Elkton, MD 21921

January 30, 2023

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 0199 Primary and Secondary Education – Comprehensive Health Education
Letter of Opposition

Dear Chairman Feldman and Members of the Education, Energy and Environment Committee:

The County Council and the County Executive of Cecil County unanimously opposes SB 0199 Primary and Secondary Education – Comprehensive Health Education. The hearing on this legislation is scheduled on February 8, 2023.

It is our understanding that this legislation requires the State Department of Education, in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Health, to develop a comprehensive health education framework; requiring each county board of education to create an age-appropriate curriculum that is consistent with the comprehensive health education framework; requiring each county board to establish a method by which a parent or guardian may opt out of certain topics, subject to certain requirements.

Cecil County strongly opposes any bill that bypasses family values and mandates the public education system to create curriculum that advances sexual discussions with children, regardless of establishing a parent opt out of certain topics. This legislation further destroys the rights of parents and families and places an undue burden on our children, educators and Board of Education.

The County Executive and County Council of Cecil County respectfully requests that the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee send an unfavorable report on SB 0199.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hornberger".

Danielle Hornberger
County Executive

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jackie Gregory".

Jackie Gregory
President of County Council