



Bill: HB 119/SB 199

Title: Primary and Secondary Education – Comprehensive Health Education Framework-
Established

Date: February 22, 2023

Position: Unfavorable

Committee: Ways and Means Committee; Education, Energy, and the Environment

Contact: Marc Schifanelli, President, Queen Anne's County Board of Education

This bill requires the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), to develop a comprehensive health education framework; requires each county board of education to create an age-appropriate curriculum consistent with the comprehensive health education framework; requires each county board to establish a method by which a parent or guardian may opt out of certain topics, subject to certain requirements; requires each county board to report each year to MSDE on certain actions; and generally requires the establishment of a comprehensive health education framework in public schools.

Consistent with the Maryland Association of the Boards of Education (MABE) position, our local Board of Education of Queen Anne's County Public Schools strongly opposes HB 119/SB 199.

We believe that all local school systems must retain the autonomy, rights, and responsibility to choose curriculum content that best meets the needs of their students, and as current Maryland law provides.

We oppose any attempts to legislate any mandatory curriculum requirements.

Therefore, the Board of Education of Queen Anne's County respectfully opposes HB 119/SB 199 and urges an unfavorable committee report.