



Serving Learners, Families, and the Community

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF CECIL COUNTY
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Bill: HB 119/SB 199
Title: Primary and Secondary Education – Comprehensive Health Education Framework-
Established
Date: January 30, 2023
Position: Unfavorable
Committee: Ways and Means Committee; Education, Energy, and the Environment
Contact: Diana B. Hawley, President, Board of Education of Cecil County

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; 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; requiring each county board to report each year to MSDE on certain actions; and generally relating to 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 Cecil County opposes HB 119/SB 119.

We believe that local school systems must retain the right and responsibility to choose the curriculum content that best meets the needs of our students. We oppose any actions such as this that attempt to legislate curriculum.

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