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SUBG: Opposition to HB 119

Please oppose HB119, Primary and Secondary Education – Comprehensive Health Education Framework – Established.

This bill is at its core a blemish on American's founding concept of a representative Republic as codified in our national and state constitutions. In America political power has always been intended to reside at the lowest power if at possible. This bill eradicates this bedrock American principle by removing the accountability of County wide elected school boards. This law circumvents that process by making them follow state requirements set by unelected bureaucrats at the state level. Schools are local community centers and ever community is different. As different as families can be, families which should determine many of the things this bill is attempting to mandate from the state to the counties.

It was just a few cycles ago that Anne Arundel County finally went with an elected school board for this reason. But this was not full truth. It ultimately became palatable when it became an issue for the major political party when a minority Governor began appointing members to this school board. This is the truth behind this bill as well.

Across this great nation parents began to see what their children were being exposed to in their government school curriculums and found they did not support these things. As a result, parents from both political parties began taking back control of local school boards. This is especially true of state "requirements" that push exposure to concepts that parents are responsible for, not government schools.

In addition to circumventing the local school boards (who know their constituents needs), circumventing the rights of parents (who know their children) and circumventing voters (who cannot hold anyone accountable) this law pushes the cost of these new requirements to the local school boards. All the cost/risk is born by them and none by the state. People who have no consequences are never concerned about doing the right thing.

As a Christian and follower of Christ, scripture teaches us that there are four forms of government; self, family, church and civil. In God's kingdom self is the most important form of relationship. Self with God. This is evidenced in the Book of Genesis where we see Adam and Eve created to procreate to fill creation and take dominion over it. Next came the family. After that came the community worship of God which will one day become the Church. From this comes civil government. These forms get hardest the further from self and the more people are involved. As always though when it comes to accountability God comes to the individual. It is the "self" that will be judged. Jesus Christ died for each individual. This law is in direct conflict with God's intent for individuals and the family unit. Please contemplate this truth as you make

your decision to go against God's word and take the responsibility from parents (who ARE still accountable to God).

I strongly and passionately ask you to vote against HB119 and allow parents, communities, and counties to identify what their children need and not an unelected state board. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Tim Walters