HB 0119 OPPOSE

Suzie Scott

Chapter Chair

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Dear Delegates,

The legislation proposed in **HB 0119 must be opposed**.

Where are the limits for state intervention over parent's fundamental rights to direct the education, moral formation and medical care of their children?

This bill goes too far in mandating a radical agenda under the guise of a Comprehensive Health Education Framework. The framework for comprehensive education that the Maryland State Department of Education has proposed has been met with a large uproar of protestation from parents across the state. This legislation is an affront to parent's rights. Gender ideology has no place in our public schools, especially in the education of our earliest learners in Pre-K and elementary school.

The proposed legislation states that the Department of Education and the MD Department of Health jointly shall develop public standards and guidelines for school health programs. This is an abrogation of the role and responsibility of our local Boards of Education.

The legislation further empowers the State and County Health departments to provide "adequate school health services." This vague wording leaves the door open to radical groups like Planned Parenthood to set up shop in our public schools. Family Life curriculum that moves beyond instruction in the human reproductive process to teaching and promoting sexual practices has no place in our public school system.

This proposed legislation violates the rights of parents and local boards of education. This proposed legislation harms children, our schools and our local communities.

I urge you to OPPOSE HB0119/SB0199.