

March 22, 2024

Written Testimony for SB0892

Thank you, Chairpersons and Committee Members, for allowing me the opportunity to testify in favor of SB0892. My name is Dr Bertrand Tchoumi. I am the co-founder and proposed Executive Director of Bilingual Global Citizens Public Charter School, a Dual Language immersion school recommended to open in Baltimore County in August 2025.

I have been in school leadership for ten years, seven of which I have spent at three different charter schools both in Maryland and in New York as Assistant principal and principal. I have been at the heart of budgetary decisions and I can testify that the money spent on facility related expenses is very significant and detrimental to our instruction mission. If that money was to be redirected to instructional matters, the learning outcomes of students at public charter schools would be even better and greater than their current state. Per pupil funding should fund pupil's learning not building. This is a matter of equity and logic. The more money we put on instruction and learning, the more opportunity there is to reach and meet the needs of struggling and multilingual learners.

I trust you understand the urgency of passing SB0892. It is not just a matter of affirming your commitment to providing all students in Maryland a quality education, but more importantly, it is an act of humanity, a love of little boys and girls, you daughters and sons attending public charter schools around Maryland.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to reach out. I can be reached at the information below. Please pass SB0892.

Thank you,

Dr. Bertrand Tchoumi  
Executive Director, Bilingual Global Citizens PCS  
[pi.education22@gmail.com](mailto:pi.education22@gmail.com)

443-739-6727