



Bill: HB 1430

Title: Education - Public Schools - Parents' Rights (Education Bill of Rights for Families Act)

Hearing Date: March 6, 2024

Position: FAVORABLE

Committee: Ways and Means

Moms for Liberty Maryland Legislative Committee requests a favorable report for HB 1430: Education Bill of Rights for Families Act.

Parents have the fundamental right to direct the upbringing of their children. This includes overseeing their education, their medical care and religious formation or moral training. These rights are inherent, meaning these rights are not bestowed by government and government may not infringe or take away these rights. HB 1430 will promote transparency in public education by ensuring parents are informed of what is transpiring in their children's schools.

The number one indicator of student success is parental involvement. This bill will encourage parental involvement in their children's schools by encouraging communication and improving facilitation of information between the school and the parent. An informed parent is an engaged parent. An engaged parent is an effective parent. An effective parent is the foundation of a thriving family. Thriving families build a just and prosperous society.

Maryland's public education system is failing.

<https://reportcard.msde.maryland.gov/Graphs/#/ReportCards/ReportCardSchool/1/E/1/99/XXXX/2023>

<https://foxbaltimore.com/news/project-baltimore/in-baltimore-city-65-of-public-schools-earn-lowest-possible-scores-on-maryland-report-card#>

The focus on academic achievement is being passed over in favor of a philosophy of diversity, equity and inclusion. Far from its stated mission of ending systemic racism, we have seen an uptick in school violence, an ever increasing mental health crisis in our youth and a continual downtick in academic proficiency. Parents and taxpayers have every right to demand and receive accountability from public school officials and transparency in what is occurring in our government schools.

<https://www.wmdt.com/2024/02/worcester-co-law-enforcement-put-school-district-on-notice-over-addressing-youth-violence/>

<https://www.marylandmatters.org/2023/09/20/top-state-legislators-health-officials-want-to-bolster-behavioral-health-services-in-schools-with-120-million-in-grant-opportunities/>

Moms for Liberty Maryland Legislative Committee is concerned by the trend we are seeing of keeping parents in the dark when it comes to what their children are learning, how they are being counseled, and the general wall of secrecy being erected between the school and the home.

<https://judiciary.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/republicans-judiciary.house.gov/files/evo-media-document/justice-testimony.pdf>

As Maryland public schools are expanding the mission of education to include all manner of social, medical and vocational services under the Community Schools model, parents must to be able to access all pertinent information that is vital to their children's education and wellbeing.

<https://www.marylandpublicschools.org/about/Pages/DSFSS/Community-Schools/Index.aspx>

Moms for Liberty Maryland Legislative Committee urges a favorable report for HB 1430.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzie Scott

Chair

Moms for Liberty Maryland Legislative Committee

