

House Bill 1102 testimony Maxwell

Good Afternoon Chairperson Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and members of the Ways and Means Committee, my name is Kevin Maxwell. I am a retired educator and here as the Chairperson of the Board of the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education. Let me begin by thanking all of you for your work to support the citizens of Maryland and your past support of our Green Schools Program. I would also like to thank Delegate Wolek and the additional sponsors of HB 1102.

In my 42 years as a public-school educator, I have learned that it takes partnerships at all levels of government and across districts to reach the best outcomes. This bill is designed to support our work in updating, improving and providing more access our website to support the work of expanding the number of Green Schools in our state. These improvements will include, among other benefits, a section that shows teachers and principals the very first steps, like a class room activity and how to align to environmental literacy curriculum standards. How to find a partner to help with a greening activity. Examples of student activities in school, on school grounds, or in the community and field trip experience. Additionally, the requirement for school systems to have the [marylandgreenschools.org](http://marylandgreenschools.org) website link on their sites would be a game changer to introducing the program to principals and administrators and supporting the Maryland Green Schools Act of 2019.

This will also be another important asset in our work to meet the needs of environmental and outdoor education in our state. Maryland has been a national leader of this work and we wish to continue to lead. Your support of this bill will truly help. Please support House Bill 1102.

Thank you for your time.