



State of Maryland Commission on Civil Rights

Respect...Integrity...Effective Communication

January 29, 2025

Senate Bill 293 - County Boards of Education - Antibias Training for Members - Requirement (County Board Member Antibias Training Act)

Position: Support

Dear Chairperson Feldman, Vice Chairperson Kagan, and Members of the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee:

The Maryland Commission on Civil Rights (“MCCR”; “The Commission”) is the State agency responsible for the enforcement of laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, commercial leasing, health services and state contracts based upon race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, physical and mental disability, source of income, and military status.

During the 2024 Legislative Session, MCCR supported HB1386/CH128 which requires all school employees to receive antibias training. MCCR now supports passage of SB293 so that members of county boards of education undergo the same antibias training mandated by last Session's HB1386/CH128. MCCR believes that this training is critical in ensuring that everyone responsible for educating Maryland's children are equipped to do so in an equitable and inclusive manner.

For these reasons, the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights urges a favorable report on SB293. Thank you for your time and consideration of this testimony. The Maryland Commission on Civil Rights looks forward to the continued opportunity to work with you to promote and improve civil rights in Maryland.

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“Our vision is to have a State that is free from any trace of unlawful discrimination.”

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