

Maureen Wambui

7827 Rolling View Ave

Nottingham, MD, 21236

Maureen.w.m.2030@gmail.com

02/27/2025

The Honorable Members of the House Committee

Maryland General Assembly

Annapolis, MD 21401

Testimony in Support of HB1385 - Maryland House Bill 1385 – Enhancing Parental Involvement in Public Education
Hearing Date: March 3, 2025

Chairperson and Esteemed Members of the Committee,

My name is Maureen Wambui, and I am a proud Immigrant and resident of Legislative District 8, a parent and active community member deeply invested in the success of our public schools. I am here today to express my strong support for HB1385, a vital bill that seeks to enhance parental involvement in the education system by requiring county boards of education to develop and implement policies that promote family engagement.

Parental involvement has long been recognized as a key factor in student success. When families are actively engaged in their children's education, students perform better academically, exhibit improved behavior, and are more likely to graduate. However, many parents currently face barriers to meaningful participation, whether due to lack of clear communication, limited accessibility to school decision-making processes, or insufficient avenues for addressing concerns.

HB1385 provides a structured framework to ensure parents have a voice in shaping their children's educational experiences. By requiring school boards to work collaboratively with parents, teachers, and community stakeholders, this bill fosters a more inclusive and transparent system. Furthermore, establishing a complaint and appeals process ensures that parental concerns are heard and addressed in a fair and timely manner, strengthening trust between families and schools.

As a parent, I have seen the positive impact of strong school-community relationships. I believe HB1385 is a step in the right direction toward creating an education system where families are true partners in student success. I urge this committee to support and pass HB1385 for the benefit of our children, our schools, and our future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Wambui