

BILL: HOUSE BILL 1385
TITLE: Children – Parental Rights – Educational Rights
DATE: February 27, 2025
POSITION: UNFAVORABLE
COMMITTEE: House – Ways and Means
CONTACT: Brian Dulay, MABE Government Relations Director

The Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE), representing all of the state's local boards of education, opposes House Bill 1385. As the voice of Maryland's 24 local boards, MABE believes the principle of local governance by boards of education is fundamental to a sound system of public education. This bill imposes a series of local government mandates.

MABE recognizes and appreciates the intent of this legislation to involve parents in their students' educational journeys. However, House Bill 1385 outlines a drastic overreach of the established and professional responsibilities of educators, including: unchecked parental rights to remove their students from *any* unit of instruction in the classroom; parental examination of all curricula and instructional materials; and a new requirement for local school boards to appoint committees to oversee parental appeals.

MABE believes such considerations should reside with the local board and school system administration. For these reasons, MABE requests an unfavorable report on House Bill 1385.
