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Salisbury, MD 21804

February 2, 2026  
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs  
Maryland General Assembly  
Legislative Services Building  
90 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**Re:** Testimony on Senate Bill 218

Dear Legislators:

The Delmarva Parent Teacher Coalition represents thousands of parents, students, teachers, and taxpayers in numerous counties across Maryland. Since the state superintendent is an unelected position, granting emergency powers to the state superintendent is an overreach of authority, and usurps democracy in every form. To that end, we believe that a state superintendent should not possess any emergency powers that would override local authority of elected officials that know the needs of the citizens at a local level. We believe any emergencies to open and close schools should always be done at the local county level.

We ask the legislative committee to find this bill as unfavorable as well, as it is a clear abuse of Maryland citizens as a totalitarian policy.

Thank you for your consideration,

***Darren Lombardo***

Darren Lombardo, Representative  
Delmarva Parent Teacher Coalition