

SB0081_RichardKaplowitz_FAV

01/27/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz
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TESTIMONY ON SB#/0081- POSITION: FAVORABLE

Criminal Law - School Resource Officers - Prohibition on Sexual Activity with Students

TO: Chair Smith, Jr., Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#/0081, **Criminal Law - School Resource Officers - Prohibition on Sexual Activity with Students**

This legislation is a priority for Frederick County Council and Executive.

This legislation closes a loophole in the law governing the prohibition of school resource officers (SROs) from having sexual contact with students by treating any such conduct regardless of the age of the student as a criminal offense. Under current law an SRO could groom a student and wait to initiate the improper conduct until that student turns eighteen without penalty when the sexual contact occurs after the student reaches that age. This bill will now affirm that no sexual contact may occur **regardless** of the student's age.

We should extend the protections under current law for students to all students at schools and institutions where an officer is serving as an SRO without this age of student loophole.

I respectfully urge this committee to return an favorable report on SB#/0081.