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February 5, 2020

Committee: Judiciary

Bill: HB 302, Deadly Weapons on School Property – Nonpublic Schools

Position: Support with Amendment #263-224-1

Reason for position:

Cheder Chabad supports HB 302 with Amendment #263-224-1. Cheder Chabad is a private school located in Baltimore, Maryland. Cheder Chaabd currently has 293 Students with a 15-20% annual growth rate.

Our top priority is the safety of our children attending our school. As a Jewish school operating during a time when we are experiencing a significant rise in antisemitism, ensuring the safety of our children becomes even more crucial.

Limiting the rights of private entities is always concerning; however, HB 302 with Amendment #263-224-1 provides our school with autonomy to protect our children properly.

The sponsor of HB 302 supports Amendment #263-224-1. Therefore, Cheder Chabad requests this committee provides HB 302 with a favorable report only with Amendment #263-224-1.

Thank you,

Rabbi Avrohom Wolowik
Executive Director

Text of Amendment #263-224-1:

Included in Section A – “This section does not apply to:”

"A person: (a) designated by a non-public school for security at that school, who holds a valid Maryland carry permit; or (b) who is on campus only for the purpose of dropping off or picking up a student and who holds a valid Maryland carry permit."