

Dear Delegate,

On the heels of seeing several bills proposed this session that seek to usurp and undermine parental authority in the state, I feel it is a duty to my children and fellow constituents to support HB1242, which aims to uphold fundamental parental rights for Marylanders as it pertains to the upbringing, educating and overall care of our children.

No one has a stronger interest in what is best for my children than I do. I am the most equipped and skilled party to make decisions for my children's' wellbeing. While I fully understand there are cases that require the state to intervene in the interest of a child, enacting laws that hinder the rights of all Maryland parents isn't an appropriate approach to managing a minority of family issues in the state. I am thrilled to see Delegate Cox's bill proactive bill on this issue. The majority of parents in Maryland are providing above-adequate care for their children and do not deserve to be inhibited by government overreach in doing so.

Do remember, the Supreme Court ruled in 1979: "Most children, even in adolescence, simply are not able to make sound judgements concerning many decisions, including their need for medical care or treatment. Parents can and must make those judgements."

I urge you to support and pass this bill, paving the way for Maryland parents to raise their own children as they see fit. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I look forward to this Thursday's hearing and hope to see you supporting the parents who elected you into office.

Warmly,  
Danielle Lasher

Danielle Lasher <[danilasher@protonmail.com](mailto:danilasher@protonmail.com)>