

**Emily Tarsell, LCPC, LCPAT**

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**2314 Benson Mill Road  
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**Support HB 1242 – Parental Rights**

Dear Chairman Clippinger and Delegates of the Judiciary Committee,

I am Emily Tarsell, a licensed therapist and mother, and I am writing to ask your favorable vote for HB 1242 in support of Parental Rights. Every mammal including mankind is hard wired to parent their offspring. Parents are instinctively driven to nurture, educate and protect their children. It is more than a right; it is an imperative.

Yet there are those who would try to usurp this instinctual parental role which is why we need this bill to become law. Thank you Delegate Cox for this legislation. The state must protect the parent's right to nurture, educate and protect their child/children according to their best judgment. We are not talking here about parental abuse or neglect and the bill addresses that circumstance. But the state must honor, respect and uphold parental authority both because it is the right thing to do as well as because it is a check on government over reach.

Please pass HB 1242. Thank you.

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