

March 9, 2021

Robert Strebeck
3829 Clarks Point Rd
Middle River MD 21220

Delegate Maggie McIntosh
Room H121
House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: SUPPORT HB 1113 (Primary and Secondary Education - Education Savings Account Program – Established)

Madam Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members,

Thank you for your service and for the opportunity to submit my written testimony in support of HB 1113, the Primary and Secondary Education - Education Savings Account Program – Established

I am writing as the grandparent of three children in Eastern Baltimore County. Two attend public schools and one attends a catholic school.

From my perspective, education is the great equalizer. Students who excel academically graduate at a higher rate and have a greater opportunity to succeed in the job market. Likewise, many go on to higher education, college or trade schools, and find many more doors of opportunity.

As you are aware, the cost of post-secondary education is increasing every year, with the cost being nearly prohibitive for a middle-income family, particularly those with multiple children.

Likewise, the cost of primary and secondary education in non-public schools continues to rise as well. Many families are struggling to afford the cost of primary and secondary education.

Allowing families to establish an education savings account would provide financial relief and a gateway toward meeting the burden that falls on the families who have multiple children seeking to attend non-public school or post-secondary education in colleges.

In order for the state of Maryland to remain competitive in attracting businesses, we must be able to provide a highly educated and technically advanced source of workers.

Thank you for affording me this opportunity to share my thoughts.

Sincerely,



Robert Strebeck