

February 8, 2021

Maryland Senate
11 Bladen St.
Annapolis, MD. 21401

In Support of SB 448 / HB 72: Local Boards of Education - School Transportation Vehicles

Members of the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee.

As the parent of a child with disabilities, I support giving local boards of education greater options for providing transportation to and from school buildings and day care centers. Growing up in New England we did not live on a school route that was not accessible by our local school system's buses. I was a passenger in one of these types of vehicles for a couple of years as a young student.

In times like these, logistical challenges surrounding education are a hot topic of debate. And as we prepare to get our children back into school buildings full time this Fall, alternative transportation vehicles may be key pieces to the transportation puzzle.

As long as a qualifying vehicle meets safety standards, is clean and is driven by a certified adult driver, these types of vehicles may be instrumental in acting as the keystone and solution to many of the questions surrounding the transportation of school students in the coming months and years.

We fully support any bill that brings more equity, fairness and opportunities for increased access to school transportation options for all Maryland students.

Please return a favorable report for SB 448 / HB 72.

Thank you for your time and your consideration of my testimony today.

Mr. Richard Ceruolo
Parent and Advocate for real, systemic change to our education system.
Parent Advocacy Consortium