

Subject: Favorable HB1181
To: House Ways and Means Committee
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Date: March 3, 2021

Parental involvement makes for better students, but what happens when parents are excluded from participating? As a blind parent of two children in Frederick County Public Schools, the screens from which my children learn are blank to me. I am blind and the platform our county uses does not work with my screen reader. So, when my third grader asks me to help her understand fractions, or my eight grader claims that she's completed all of her work, I am left without the tools that I need to help them. As students with 504 plans and potential learning disabilities, they need my support, and I cannot provide it.

The virtual learning platforms that the schools use are not compatible with accessibility technology. I have been cut out of their learning journey and my children are paying the price. Currently, they are both falling behind and my youngest is not meeting grade-level expectations.

Please support HB 1191 and give blind parents the ability to take an active role in their children's education.