

## Primary and Secondary Education - School Personnel - Prohibition on Retaliation for Not Returning to In-Person Instruction and Work

I am for this law because each county and individual school in Maryland should be given a choice on how they wish to educate their students during this pandemic. However, the state board of education should be strongly encouraging each county to bring students back into the school buildings. Data shows that students and teachers can both operate better when in the school building. According to this cite

<https://www.techlearninguniversity.com/news/remote-vs-in-person-classes-what-the-data-shows>

students cannot thrive in a virtual environment as well. Especially for younger students like grade k-5, a lot of what they do in school is group projects and learning to interact with other students. When doing virtual school that is entirely taken away from them and they have spent most of their time working on computers. This pandemic has prevented us from returning to school but according to the CDC "it is critical for schools to open as safely and as quickly as possible for in-person learning. Schools play an important role in children's educational achievement, health, and wellbeing." All the guardians in a child's household should make the decision and according to this cite

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/decision-tool.html>

if the household has elderly or people with weakened immune systems then the entire household is at risk. Students should be going back to school and this law should pass.