

## Olivia Bartlett, DoTheMostGood Maryland Team

**Committee**: Budget and Taxation

**Testimony on:** HB1450 – Blueprint for Maryland's Future — Implementation Plans and Fund —

Alterations

Position: Favorable

Hearing Date: March 29, 2022

Bill Contact: Delegate Maggie McIntosh

DoTheMostGood (DTMG) is a progressive grass-roots organization with more than 3000 members who live in a wide range of communities in Montgomery County and several nearby jurisdictions. DTMG supports legislation and activities that improve public education and career opportunities and promote equity in all our diverse communities. DTMG is an active member of Strong Schools Maryland and supports full implementation of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. DTMG strongly supports HB1450 so there will not be further delays in implementing the Blueprint fully and faithfully in every school district across the state.

With the delay in the formation and appointment of members to the Blueprint's Accountability and Implementation Board (AIB), some of the deadlines imposed by the current Act could not be met. New governing statutory deadlines need to be developed to mandate prompt action by the AIB to issue statewide implementation requirements and for local school boards subsequently to formulate and issue conforming county-specific implementation plans.

HB1450 will establish new, realistic implementation timelines that are based on recommendations from the AIB. Additionally, HB1450 will adjust the state revenue allocation for the Blueprint Fund to support long term, sustainable funding of public education in Maryland.

HB1450 requires urgent action. Implementation of the Blueprint has already been delayed, and the students and teachers of Maryland need the implementation guidance and resources as soon as possible. We strongly urge you to move HB1450 quickly through the Committee and on to a Floor vote so that the promise of the Blueprint can finally be delivered to every Maryland classroom.

DTMG therefore strongly supports HB1450 and urges a FAVORABLE report on this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

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