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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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SJ 7 Support of Parents' Rights to Bring Grievances to County Boards of Education

Chairman Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan and members of the Environmental, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee,

This is a simple resolution that would have the General Assembly of Maryland recognize the important right of any parent to address their local school board - peacefully and in order of course - and not be kept from doing so by force - which would of course be unlawful - but also by subtle or over intimidation. It's not a new law, simply a strong statement of support. Last year we saw the Justice Department and Attorney General of the United States direct the FBI to look into disruptive parents as possible terror threats (a couple of news sources below). While it does appear that nothing eventually came of it after a big backlash, I think we should make it clear that we are on the side of open dialogue, transparency and accountability.

I urge a favorable on SJ 7.

[Partnership Among Federal, State, Local, Tribal and Territorial Law Enforcement to Address Threats Against School Administrators, Board Members, Teachers, and Staff \(justice.gov\)](#)

https://www.wsj.com/articles/about-those-domestic-terrorists-national-school-boards-association-merrick-garland-memo-fbi-11635285900?mod=article_inline

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2021/10/27/attorney-general-merrick-garland-school-board-investigation-violence/8564956002/>

<https://www.grassley.senate.gov/news/news-releases/judiciary-republicans-to-garland-are-concerned-parents-domestic-terrorists-or-not>