

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee - SB888 - FAVORABLE

Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan, and the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee;

SB888 will create an advisory board tasked with the job of developing recommendations for academic standards for American studies, and of developing a model policy on ethnic and social equity in the public schools.

I've read the bill and I think it's incredibly important to work on these issues for the students.

I live in Pasadena (northeast Anne Arundel County), and Chesapeake High School in Pasadena has serious problems with racism, homophobia, transphobia, xenophobia, and antisemitism. I'm sure many of those students are learning those things from home (especially considering that one kid wore a Confederate flag to school recently.) School may be the only place where these kids have a chance to learn to be better than their parents. I also believe that focusing on these issues would help the marginalized students feel a lot more comfortable and accepted in schools.

I urge a Favorable Report for SB888. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,
Debi Jasen
Pasadena, MD