

## Po Box 731 Randallstown, MD 21133

January 31, 2022

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West., Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SUPPORT SB 0116, Public Schools - Inclusive and Diverse English Language Arts - Development of Content Standards and Implementation

Dear Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan, and Members of the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee.

May it be known the mission of the Randallstown NAACP is to secure equal rights in order to eliminate race-based discrimination and ensure the health and wellbeing of all persons. We are the premier organization advocating for students of color in Baltimore County.

The Randallstown NAACP supports SB 0116, Public Schools - Inclusive and Diverse English Language Arts - Development of Content Standards and Implementation. Acknowledging the cultural diversity in English language arts classrooms is important to highlight multiethnic cultural heritage. Appropriate pedagogical practices addressing

students' needs and culture are valuable for their academic and personal growth. It is necessary to be aware of the students' backgrounds in order to better understand who the students are and what the students need, as well as to allow all students to gain appreciation, respect, and understand the students' differences. Likewise, encouraging students to acknowledge the diversity of cultures that surround them can help to promote social and educational development.

The Randallstown Branch of the NAACP urges a favorable report from the committee on SB 0116.

yours

Ryan Coleman President, Randallstown NAACP

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