

Kim.pdf

Uploaded by: Alessandra Reinhart

Position: FAV

February 15, 2022

John and Kimberly McGrath
919 Coachway
Annapolis MD 21401
jpandkimberly@yahoo.com

Re: Senate Bill 577/House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education
Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you asking you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

The Comptroller wrote a letter in support and said it best, “Special education students deserve the same access to a safe educational environment, and Senate Bill 577 would help protect some of our most vulnerable students by increasing accountability....”

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front offices, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly. The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 and SB577 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

John and Kimberly McGrath

Letter Supporting Senate Bill 577 House Bill 226 P

Uploaded by: Alessandra Reinhart

Position: FAV

Michelle Drake

614 Tayman Drive
Annapolis MD 21401
Emmdrak00@Gmail.com

To: Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

Re: Support for Senate Bill 577/House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

As a neurodivergent individual who suffered from bullying and abuse in K-12 public schools I am writing to ask you to support this bill to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

The Comptroller wrote a letter in support and said it best, “Special education students deserve the same access to a safe educational environment, and Senate Bill 577 would help protect some of our most vulnerable students by increasing accountability....”

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front offices, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft and are a powerful tool when used properly.

The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 and SB577 to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Sincerely,
/S/
Michelle Drake

Peggy.pdf

Uploaded by: Alessandra Reinhart

Position: FAV

Peggy Cruz
Annapolis, MD
Peggyacruz@yahoo.com

Senate Bill 577/House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom –
Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you asking you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms. This measures will help give a voice to the students who are not able to speak for themselves. Advocates for people with disabilities and civil rights attorneys have examined this issue and have concluded that this bill will protect vulnerable students, but also teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and who sometimes experience suspensions from false allegations. Comptroller Mr. Peter Franchot has come out in support of this bill, writing “Special education students deserve the same access to a safe educational environment, and Senate Bill 577 would help protect some of our most vulnerable students by increasing accountability....” Cameras are already in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front offices, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors as deterrents against unlawful behavior. They can be powerful, impartial tools when used to document events when those involved have no voice if their own.

Please support HB226 and SB577 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Very respectfully,

Peggy Cruz

Sam.pdf

Uploaded by: Alessandra Reinhart

Position: FAV

Samantha Burdette
7 Severn River Rd
Severna Park, MD 21146
samburdette@gmail.com

Senate Bill 577/House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education
Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices
Position: Support
Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you asking you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

The Comptroller wrote a letter in support and said it best, “Special education students deserve the same access to a safe educational environment, and Senate Bill 577 would help protect some of our most vulnerable students by increasing accountability....”

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front offices, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly.

The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 and SB577 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Samantha Burdette

Ursula.pdf

Uploaded by: Alessandra Reinhart

Position: FAV

Ursula Hanus
7 Mystic St
Worcester MA 01607
uhanus01@gmail.com

Senate Bill 577/House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education
Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices
Position: Support
Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you asking you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

The Comptroller wrote a letter in support and said it best, “Special education students deserve the same access to a safe educational environment, and Senate Bill 577 would help protect some of our most vulnerable students by increasing accountability....”

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front offices, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly.

The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 and SB577 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ursula A Hanus

SB577_Support_The Arc Maryland.pdf

Uploaded by: Ande Kolp

Position: FAV



The Arc Maryland
8601 Robert Fulton Drive
Suite 140
Columbia, MD 21046
T 410.571.9320
www.thearcmd.org

SENTATE EDUCATION HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
SB 577: PUBLIC SCHOOLS—SELF-CONTAINED SPECIAL EDUCATION CLASSROOM—
USE OF VIDEO RECORDING DEVICES
FEBRUARY 16, 2022
POSITION: SUPPORT

The Arc Maryland is the largest statewide advocacy organization dedicated to protecting and advancing the rights and quality of life of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Arc Maryland supports Senate Bill 577, which would require the installation of video cameras in at least 50% of self-contained special education classrooms by the beginning of the 2022-23 school year and 100% of self-contained special education classrooms by the beginning of the 2023-34 school year.

We have worked with the bill sponsors and stakeholders over the past year to address the valid and shared concerns we have with privacy, accessibility to recordings, and reasons under which the recordings may be viewed. It is very important to The Arc and our members that cameras not be used to observe teacher performance or student behavior, under any circumstance outside of what would be allowed through this legislation: our only goals are to provide information to administrators and law enforcement to do their best job in the investigation of alleged abuse or neglect, to deter abuse and neglect, and to provide parents with reliable information. We believe the bill this session has been perfected to achieve the greatest good, address the previous concerns, and strengthen protections for students with disabilities and teachers in self-contained special education classrooms.

We are currently experiencing a shortage of teachers in all educational areas but particularly in special education. We cannot afford for teachers to be removed from classrooms based on erroneous allegations, even for a short period of time. We believe this legislation will accomplish two primary goals of giving a voice to students who use non-traditional communication or who otherwise face barriers to reliably recalling and relaying what may have happened to them, and providing a tool for thorough and expeditious investigations that will help to remove those teachers who abuse or neglect students, and exonerate those who have been erroneously accused of wrong-doing.

We have heard from parents whose children have come home from school with unexplained injuries, or reports indicating that a student engaged in behavior resulting in a self-inflicted injury. Sometimes the reports don't add up, and parents are unable to obtain resolution. They face uncertainty, fear for their child, and fear of retaliation if they pursue the matter further. Access to video footage would enable a school to review an incident to understand what may have occurred during an incident and to respond appropriately.

With ARPA and other federal one-time-only financial assistance coming to Maryland at this time, we believe this year and next year, the initial costs of the camera installations will not pose a financial burden to the state. Instead, these investments will add to the infrastructure we need to create safer school environments for some of our most vulnerable students.

Please contact: Ande Kolp, Executive Director of The Arc Maryland
akolp@thearcmd.org

SENATE BILL 577 FOR JOSIAH.pdf

Uploaded by: Andrea Smedley-Hasty

Position: FAV

Andrea L. Smedley Hasty
409 Clairborne Street
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20774

Senate Bill 577/Public Schools – Self Contained Special Education Classrooms Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support with Amendments

Ways and Means Committee

1/27/2022

My name is Andrea L. Smedley Hasty, I am the grandmother of an Autistic Grandson, Josiah D. Hasty and I am in support of SB577 with amendments. This bill is important to me because Josiah, now age 8, was abused at age 4 in the Prince Georges County Public School System and at age 6 at a Private School, the Children's Guild in Hyattsville, Maryland.

Josiah is Verbal but cannot articulate the events of the school day. To date we are still awaiting evidence of and paperwork relating to his abuse/injuries. Though Josiah could not articulate his abuse/injuries he did act out in other ways to let us know that he felt in danger. Josiah's great-grandparents live near the Children's Guild and he would have crying and yelling fits if we went in the direction of their home thinking that he had to go to school, he would also fight us when trying to get him to even get out of the car in both instances to go in school after such abuse/injuries took place! Josiah is currently under the care of a Psychologist to deal with his trauma and was removed from the Children's Guild due to such and was about to have a teacher come to our home until the investigation was concluded; however, COVID-19 happened, and everyone went Virtual. (We are still in litigation for such.)

Several years later we are still awaiting proper documentation from the incidents that occurred in Prince Georges County School System.

If there had been cameras in the classrooms then the answers to our Who, What, When How, and Why's could have quickly been answered and it would have alleviated the trauma, stress, and abundance of money on legal fees to assure Josiah's safety.

As a parent/grandparent we should not have to worry about the Safety of our children when at school.

I am asking that you PLEASE SUPPORT THIS SENATE BILL 577 to ensure the future Safety of Josiah and ALL CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS. SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN NEED THE VOICE THAT THEY DON'T HAVE TO ENSURE SAFETY, PROTECTION AND A PROPER AND FAIR EDUCATION!!!

Thank you for your time and support!

Andrea L. Smedley Hasty

SB577 Favorable.pdf

Uploaded by: Angela Sittler

Position: FAV



In Support of SB 577: Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms – Use of Video Recording Devices.

Members of the Maryland Senate, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs committee.

I am the parent of a young man, Jake, who has been in a Baltimore County school self-contained classroom since Pre-K 3. Jake, 18, is physically and cognitively impaired, including being non-verbal. He is not able to tell me what happens to him good or bad. Individuals with an intellectual disability are eager to please the people around them and are easily convinced to say or not say things by those working with them. Because of this, these individuals are often targeted. In the legal system their testimony is not sought out or is disregarded as unreliable due to their disability.

My son was molested by an individual who was his in-home caregiver. The only way I found out was after a severe behavior change and the caregiver being arrested on unrelated child porn charges, did I find out what happened to my son. The police and prosecutors would not interview my son as he was deemed an unreliable witness, so the abuser was never charged. I was told if I had video evidence of the abuse that would have been enough to charge him. The abuser had a clean background and all that means for people like him is that they have never been caught. My son's abuser was caught with 100's of child porn photos going back years.

A parent's biggest fear is the abuse of their child, and we do everything in our power to prevent it. Parents must trust that the school staff we are handing our child off to are going to care for and protect them. Despite knowing that oftentimes there are substitute teachers, aides, and other staff working with them. A camera in the classroom can protect the most vulnerable of our children like my son.

A camera in the classroom can also protect staff from false allegations. My son has issues with balance and falls, sometimes daily, often leading to bruises or scrapes. It would be very easy for a child like mine to come home with these 'unexplained' injuries and blame the staff. It is also easy for students in these classrooms to have behaviors that injure another student when nobody is looking. If there was a camera in the classroom the incident could be reviewed and an innocent staff member would not have to miss time from work, get a lawyer, or have their career ended by a false allegation.

We have cameras on buses, on Police, in stores, and in many other public places to protect people from crimes, why would a self-contained classroom, which houses the most vulnerable of our students be any different? Please vote **FOR** SB 577 and allow students like Jake, and the staff that help him to be protected from harm.

Respectfully Submitted
Angela Sittler,
Parent of Jake Sittler

Parent 12 group SB557 2022.pdf

Uploaded by: Charles Scott

Position: FAV



Peter Franchot
Comptroller

TESTIMONY OF COMPTROLLER PETER FRANCHOT
Support – Senate Bill 577 - Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education
Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
February 16, 2022

Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan and members of the Committee, it is my pleasure to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 577 – Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices. I would like to thank Senator Klausmeier for sponsoring this important legislation, and the Committee for providing the opportunity for my testimony to be heard.

Many special needs students in our state are non-verbal or find it difficult to communicate effectively. This means that if they are subject to any form of abuse or neglect, they are left unable to advocate for themselves. Senate Bill 577 is designed to provide a layer of protection to special education students by providing video evidence of any suspected wrongdoing. This holds individuals accountable and serves as a deterrent for improper behavior.

Special education students deserve the same access to a safe educational environment, and Senate Bill 577 would help protect some of our most vulnerable students by increasing accountability. For the reasons stated above, I respectfully request a favorable report for Senate Bill 577. Thank you for your time and consideration.

###

Senate Bill 577 – Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: EHEA Committee

Name: Angela Hammond
Address: 4244 Rose Petal Ct
Ellicott City, Md 21043
Email: angelahammond@aol.com

I am in support of SB577 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood. Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen. Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support SB577 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Angela Hammond

Senate Bill 577 -- Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: EHEA Committee

Name: Sharon Mendel
Address: 4114 Lotuo Circle
BL Cott City, MD 21043
Email: sharon.mendel@verizon.net

I am in support of SB577 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support SB577 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Sharon Mendel

Frank Kirkland

Vice President of Quality Supports

The Arc Baltimore

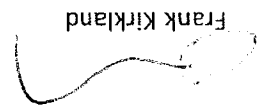
fkirkland@thearcbaltimore.org

HB226/SB557 Public Schools-Self-Contained special education classroom- Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: SUPPORT

HEARING: EHEA 2/16/22

I am writing in support of House Bill 226 that would establish the use of video recording devices in public school self-contained special education classrooms. As the former Executive Director of the Linwood Center, a non-public special education school in Howard County, we used recording devices in all of our classrooms and common areas. We found the use of the devices very helpful in investigating incidents that occurred at the school and assisted us in determining if any abuse or neglect of students by staff or incidents with other students. The use of the devices was also very helpful in addressing any complaints that staff of parents had regarding conduct of staff. HB 226 contains the needed provisions to protect the privacy of students and other staff.



Frank Kirkland

Vice President of Quality Supports

The Arc Baltimore

Name: _____
Address: _____
Email: _____

Senate Bill 577 -- Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: EHEA Committee

I am in support of SB577 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV,TX,GA,LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support SB577 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

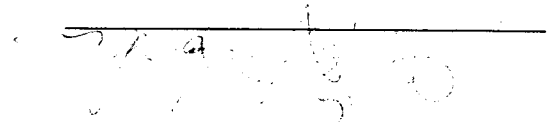
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Joel Shechtman
Address: 9155 Greenfield Rd
Lincoln Bridge MD 21788
Email: joel@shechtman.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen. Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



February 13, 2022

POSITION: SB 577-SUPPORT

Dear Chair Pinsky and Members of EHEA:

I am writing to express my support of, and need for, Senate Bill 577, intended to place cameras in self-contained special education classrooms in certain, specified situations. Having practiced special education law in Maryland for over 46 years now, I have seen countless instances when parents or other professionals have described to me alleged inappropriate behavior or conduct in special education classrooms with accompanying indications of injuries to children who are unable to reliably report the actual circumstances. Even if no serious injuries are involved, the behavior being described or just suggested often has raised serious concerns as to what is going on in the classroom, from both an instructional and child welfare perspective.

The fact that these are certainly not frequent occurrences does nothing to detract from the seriousness of each instance. Clearly, providing a video record in such self-contained classes would serve two important purposes, first, the protection of the child and second, the protection of instructional staff who are not at fault. I would hope that everyone would see it in that light.

Thank you and good luck.

Michael Eig

Michael J. Eig and Associates, PC
5454 Wisconsin Avenue
Suite 760
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Michael.eig@lawforchildren.com

Senate Bill 577 - Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: EHEA Committee


Name: DEBRA USARNE
Address: 3009 SOUTHERN STAR TERRACE
COLUMBIA, MD 21044
Email: debrav@comcast.net

I am in support of SB577 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support SB577 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Parents grp 1 testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Charles Scott

Position: FAV

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording

Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

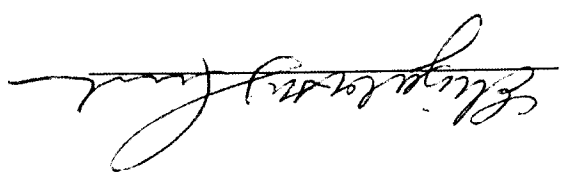
Name: Elizabeth Hamish
Address: 1700 Newhampton Lane
West Stock MD 21163
Email: elizabeth.hamish@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

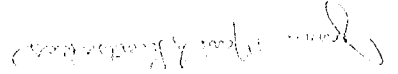
Name: Jeannie-Marie Leoutsakos
Address: 2813 Millers Way Drive Ellicott City MD 21043
Email: jeannie-marie@jhu.edu

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Name: Karen Kessler
Address: 2811 Blue Spruce Ln.
Silver Spring, MD 20906
Email: h.km@kesslerdiverzon.net

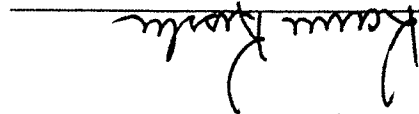
House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood. Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen. Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Parents grp 2 testimony HB 226.pdf

Uploaded by: Charles Scott

Position: FAV

MI Ji Kim

Name:

Address: 5920 Great Star Dr #202

Clarksville, Md 21029

Email: mijikim68@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Name: Deborah B. Nichols
Address: 3900 Sharp Rd
Glenwood, MD 21738
Email: wofdmuse@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Deborah B. Nichols

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Maria Villani
Address: 1530 Henryton Road
Marriottsville, MD 21104
Email: mariaspekio83@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Maria Villani

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording

Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Kathleen Deiss
Address: 6455 Belleview Drive
Columbia MD 21046
Email: kate.deiss@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood. Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen. Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Kathleen Deiss

Name: Catherine Murphy
Address: 7432 Flammewood Drive
Clarksville, MD 21029
Email: superbowlmamma@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording
Devices

POSITION: Support

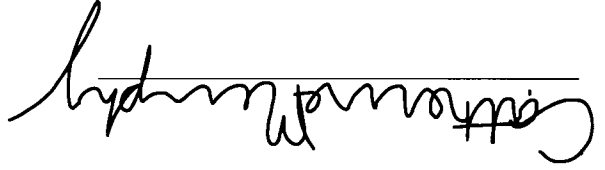
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearings: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

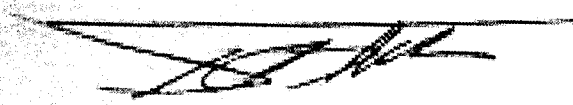
Name: Walter Clark
Address: 4318 Independence Rd
City: Arkadelphia, AR
Email: Walter.Clark@arknet.net

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self-contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a different to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self-contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be monitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Name: Patricia Gibson
 Address: 4314 Montgomery Rd
 - Kingsport, TN 37602
 Email: pgibson@montgomeryschools.org

House Bill 226: Public Schools Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

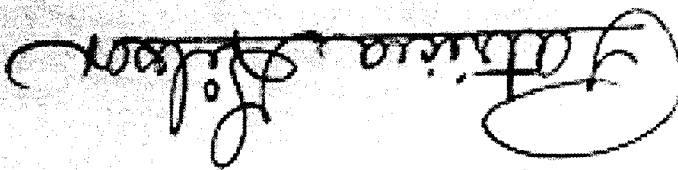
POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self-contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self-contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be monitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,


House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Linda Chambers
Address: 6474 Walcott Lane
Frederick, MD 21703
Email: linda_chambers@fwp.03

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Linda Chambers, DOE

Cameras in the Classroom Senate.pdf

Uploaded by: Guy Stephen

Position: FAV

February 15, 2022

Guy Stephens
338 Sachem Drive
Lusby, Maryland 20657

Senate Bill 0577: Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Members of the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee,

My name is Guy Stephens, and I am the founder and executive director of the Alliance Against Seclusion and Restraint (AASR). AASR is a community of over 17,000 parents, self-advocates, teachers, school administrators, paraprofessionals, attorneys, related service providers, and others working together to influence change in how we support children who may exhibit distressed behaviors. The mission of AASR is to educate the public and connect people who are dedicated to changing minds, laws, policies, and practices so that restraint, seclusion, suspension, expulsion, corporal punishment, and other abusive practices are eliminated from schools across the nation and beyond. Our vision is safer schools for students, teachers, and staff.

I am writing to you today because I am concerned that the civil rights of disabled children in schools across the state are being routinely violated. Children with disabilities make up about 12% of the total enrollment in our schools. However, disabled children with special education placements account for 93% of the physically restrained children and 98% of the children who are involuntarily forced into seclusion rooms in Maryland. Restraint and seclusion are often underreported, as has been documented by the Government Accountability Office (GAO). Nonverbal students and those with significant cognitive disabilities are particularly vulnerable. The use of restraint and seclusion can lead to trauma, injuries, and even death. I am not alone in my concern that the disproportionate use of restraint and seclusion can be an

indicator of civil rights violations. In 2016, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights issued guidance to inform school districts that the use of restraint and seclusion may result in discrimination against students with disabilities.

As you are likely aware, Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) was recently investigated by the Department of Justice (DOJ). The DOJ's investigation found that the school district unnecessarily and repeatedly secluded and restrained students as young as five years old in violation of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This led to a settlement agreement under which Frederick County will end the use of seclusion, overhaul its restraint practices, and train staff on the use of appropriate behavioral interventions for students with disabilities. It is also my understanding the FCPS plans to put cameras in all special education classrooms. This is something that should be happening across the state.

I am writing to express our support for Senate Bill 0577 because we believe that we can and must do better for students, teachers, and staff in our schools. The data show that disabled students in Maryland schools are disproportionately being restrained, secluded, and subjected to aversive discipline. This is not only a significant problem, but it is a civil rights issue. I believe that cameras in our self-contained special education classrooms can provide necessary accountability and oversight.

While cameras are not the answer to every issue, we believe they can be a valuable tool to ensure safe, transparent and accountable schools. Thank you for your time today. I hope you will support this legislation to make our classrooms safer for all.

Respectfully,



Guy Stephens
Founder and Executive Director
Alliance Against Seclusion and Restraint

SB577 FAVORABLE.pdf

Uploaded by: India Ochs

Position: FAV

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

Bill #: SB0577

Bill Title: Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

February 16, 2022

****FAVORABLE****

Dear Mr. Chair and members of the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee,

As an individual born with a speech disability, Chair of the national disability civil rights nonprofit Communication First, and juvenile justice advocate who has fought for decades to combat the high rates of abuse of students of color and students with disabilities (and especially students of color with a disability), I am writing to request your support for SB0577: Public Schools - Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms - Use of Video Recording Devices, which would require each county board of education, to install at least one video recording device in each self-contained special education classroom, require video recording devices to record self-contained special education classrooms and exclusion areas during school hours and during any time that the classroom or exclusion area is in use, and prohibit the use of a video recording device in bathrooms or in areas that students use to change clothing. **The installation of video recording devices in all special education classrooms is a critical step towards ensuring our most vulnerable students are protected from emotional, verbal, and physical abuse.**

Why are our students with disabilities so vulnerable to the risk of abuse? Just look at the statistics. According to a [2021 report](#) by the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Victims of Crimes, **individuals with disabilities were at least four times as likely as people without a disability to be victims of “violent victimization”**. This is a drastic increase from only two years ago, when the statistics in the 2019 report showed people with disability were at least twice as likely to be victims of violent victimization. Specifically, 46.2 out of every 1000 individuals with a disability age 12 or older reported being a victim of a violent victimization, compared to 12.3 out of every 1000 individuals age 12 or older without a disability. Moreover, between 2017 and 2019, **83.3 out of every 1000 individuals with a cognitive disability age 12 or older reported being a victim of violent victimization**. Other statistics show that children with disabilities are 3.7 times more likely to experience violence than children without a disability (and 2.9 times more likely to experience sexual abuse). And 60% of students with disabilities are bullied compared to 25% of students without disabilities.

A physical therapist (PT) was observed verbally and physically abusing a student who was nonverbal. Three adults reported seeing the PT pinch the student to “motivate” her to walk down the hall with a walker. The PT also called the student “stupid”, “disgusting”, and “lazy.” The PT told the girl her mother would not love her anymore if she didn’t walk like a “big person.” The student’s aide informed her parents, who in turn called the police. They refused to get involved. The child’s service coordinator was also called and wrote a letter to the school district, which was ignored. Even after multiple meetings with the school principal, the PT continued to work with the child and the aide was required to attend all sessions. The family was able to get a new PT the following year, but the abusive PT continued to work with other children.

That is a troubling story but represents what so many children with disabilities endure – with many experiencing much crueler incidents of abuse. In the [2009 GAO Report “Selected Cases of Death and Abuse at Public and Private Schools and Treatment Centers”](#), investigators found hundreds of cases of alleged abuse and death related to the use of restraint and seclusion on school children during the past two decades – and almost all of the allegations involved children with disabilities. A common theme with cases that involved death was that most of the students were nonverbal. Additionally, at least half of the educators involved in the cases under review by the GAO remained employed after the death and/or abuse occurred. The statistics have not changed.

The U.S. Department of Education (DOE) reported over 70,000 students covered under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act were restrained or secluded, accounting for over 200,000 incidents. The DOE also reported in October 2020 that 80% of all students subject to physical restraints had disabilities, while 77% of students subject to seclusion had disabilities. In another study, NPR and ProPublica found that although students with disabilities represent only 12% of the public-school population, they comprise two-thirds of the children physically restrained or secluded. Since the 2009 GAO report, many states, including Maryland, have passed laws to better protect students from restraint and seclusion yet the abuse continues: a federal investigation of Frederick County released on December 1, 2021, showed every single student secluded was a student with disabilities, as were 99% (all but one) of the students the district restrained. Much more is needed to truly protect our kids from such practices, along with other forms of abuse by educators, peers, or volunteers.

Of equal concern is the fact that too many reports of abuse stop at the schoolhouse. Unless one is well-trained in understanding that **communication goes beyond just verbal speech**, many in law enforcement or the justice system will not investigate or bring charges against those suspected of abusing/harming a non-verbal child because they think the court will find the child's testimony or statements to be uncreditable. Will having such incidents on video tape automatically hold people accountable? Of course not. Yet as has been seen in this increasing age of posting such vicious acts on social media, it will be a significant step in the right direction to ensure our kids are listened to. We want cameras on buses to show evidence of fights or abuse. We want cameras in hallways or lunchrooms or entrances to monitor school safety. We want cameras on police officers to provide visual evidence of their actions. If we are supportive of ensuring there is video evidence of what occurred in those situations, why wouldn't we want video recordings to support the population least likely to verbally report abuse and harm? The GAO has released multiple reports in the last decade highlighting the vast underreporting (or no reporting) by school systems across the country regarding students with disabilities facing restraint, seclusion, and other abuse – and why wouldn't it be easy to not report such incidents when most children are unable to report such abuse or there is no supporting evidence to give their stories further credibility. Video recording will be a game changer in not only increasing accountability for the horrific abuse many of our kids with disabilities face, but will help decrease such abuse from occurring.



Finally, of note to anyone that suggests that fellow students could help report such situations: **STOP WITH SUCH NONSENSE.** If you pay attention to any child, you know that 1) children want to keep adults happy/do not want to say/do anything that might upset their teachers or other staff members, *especially those who already come across as “mean” or abusive*, and 2) even the most active young advocates feel that school officials don't take them seriously when there is no physical/visual proof of what happened. **Protecting our kids is an adult responsibility: never place any of that responsibility on children.**

We grew up with the belief, the loyalty, that a founding principle of the United States is freedom of speech. Those without communication and/or cognitive disabilities have ample ability to exercise their freedom of speech. Cameras in classrooms might be the only way individual students fully communicate what happened within a school setting: do not deny freedom of speech to those most in need of access to such communication.

For the reasons stated above, I strongly urge this committee to vote FAVORABLY on Bill #: SB0577, Bill Title: Public Schools - Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms - Use of Video Recording Devices.

Respectfully Submitted,

India Ochs
Annapolis, Maryland

SB 577 - Public Schools – Self-Contained Special

Uploaded by: Justin Hayes

Position: FAV



Peter Franchot
Comptroller

TESTIMONY OF COMPTROLLER PETER FRANCHOT
Support – Senate Bill 577 - Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education
Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
February 16, 2022

Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan and members of the Committee, it is my pleasure to provide testimony in **support** of **Senate Bill 577 – Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices**. I would like to thank Senator Klausmeier for sponsoring this important legislation, and the Committee for providing the opportunity for my testimony to be heard.

Many special needs students in our state are non-verbal or find it difficult to communicate effectively. This means that if they are subject to any form of abuse or neglect, they are left unable to advocate for themselves. Senate Bill 577 is designed to provide a layer of protection to special education students by providing video evidence of any suspected wrongdoing. This holds individuals accountable and serves as a deterrent for improper behavior.

Special education students deserve the same access to a safe educational environment, and Senate Bill 577 would help protect some of our most vulnerable students by increasing accountability. For the reasons stated above, I respectfully request a **favorable report** for Senate Bill 577. Thank you for your time and consideration.

###

SB0577_HB226 Video Cameras _Hearing date 2 16 202

Uploaded by: Kim Tart

Position: FAV



HB226 (cross filed w/SB0577) – Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms – Use of Video Recording Devices

Hearing Date: February 16, 2022

Dear Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

I am writing to you in hopes of your support for Senate Bill SB0577 (crossed referenced HB226)- Public Schools- Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices. As a parent of a student who attends public school in Prince George's County. I am supportive of the protections this bill will offer our special needs students who are educated in Maryland public schools and our special education staff.

My son, Montgomery, is educated in a community reference instruction (CRI) program at Kettering Middle School where he receives 90% of his education in a self- contained classroom. He and has classmates participate in Art, Music and Physical Education with their general education classmates. We are fortunate that the special education staff at Kettering Middle school are seasoned educators and are well-trained in educating and managing students with special needs.

However, incidents can occur where staff and students are at risk in these classrooms due to behavioral needs and often lack of staff training and resources. We had a terrible experience at Bradbury Heights Elementary school. Monty's 5th grade teacher accused him of inappropriate behavior. It was the teacher's word against Monty's. Monty has verbal expression delays and was unable to communicate what was happening or defend himself. My husband and I are Monty's voice.

If the classroom area had surveillance coverage, we could have access to a documented recording of what actually occurred and allow all parties to have a shared picture of the event. Instead, we hired a parent advocate to observe the classroom, we

interviewed Monty's caregivers and community service providers to determine what actually occurred. Fortunately, as a result of the observation and interviews, we were able to determine what triggered his behavior and understood how and why he was behaving towards his teacher and classmates. We removed Monty from the classroom and the alleged "behavior" ceased. However, we will never know what actually happened in the classroom.

As parents, we entrust the school staff with our most vulnerable children every day. Being able to collaborate and have transparency will enable us all to work together in a concerted effort for the betterment of our children. Please support SB0577/HB226.

Sincerely,

Kim Tart
1302 Fairfield Drive
District Heights, Maryland 20747
tartkg@prodigy.net

camerainclassroom.pdf

Uploaded by: Laurie Beth Baturin

Position: FAV

Good Morning Members of the Legislature,

Thank you for this opportunity to listen to my son's story.

My name is Laurie Baturin and my son Alex is a certificate of completion bound student in Washington County Public Schools. Alex a quadriplegic, medically complex, non-verbal, and developmentally 12-18 months.

Three years ago when in school his private duty nurse was abusing him. We are not sure how long this had been occurring. One day the school principal was walking past the classroom where Alex and his nurse, alone in the classroom were having quiet time because Alex had just had a series of seizures.

The principal observed Alex's nurse hitting him and saying "You will not do this to me today". Had she not been walking by, who knows how long this would have (or had been) going/gone on for.

The nurse was under the employ of a nursing agency that I contracted to go to school with Alex. Nurses, teachers, and administrators in a school setting are believed to be beyond reproach.

We are always seeing examples of how this is simply not true.

Cameras in classrooms for my son's population are a check and double-check. Now, what do I mean by double-checking? If there is a student who is behaving badly, the school can look at the films and isolate the behavior. This too will provide safety for staff and other students in the classroom. The cameras protect ALL PERSONS IN THE BUILDING.

I know that teacher's unions will give a lot of push back on this. I beg to differ with their opinion. If you are not doing anything wrong, then what is there to fear from the cameras? Right?

The camera films will have very specific guidelines for viewing and are not to be

used for any other purpose than the safety of the school population. Students, teachers and staff, everyone.

So that you have a deeper understanding of my son, I want you to know that Alex started the 2019-2020 school year in hospice care. Every day that Alex is in school and comes home is a gift. Alex is going to turn 20 years old this year, we are all blessed with his gift of unconditional love and laughter. He is as pure and innocent as a human can be. He knows no harm, only love. Every day I put Alex on the bus and kiss him and tell him to have a good day. With these children, this is quite possibly our last goodbye. This is the reality we live in.

Please add another layer of protection with the cameras in the classroom. There is nothing to lose and only safety to gain.

Thank you,

Laurie Beth Baturin and Alex Baturin

17520 Lincolnshire Road

Hagerstown, MD 21740

lauriebaturin@gmail.com

Phone 301 919 1126

EACtestimony2022.SB577.pdf

Uploaded by: Leslie Margolis

Position: FAV

**Education Advocacy Coalition
for Students with Disabilities**

SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**SENATE BILL 577: PUBLIC SCHOOLS—SELF-CONTAINED SPECIAL EDUCATION CLASSROOM—USE OF
VIDEO RECORDING DEVICES**

FEBRUARY 16, 2022

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Education Advocacy Coalition for Students with Disabilities (EAC), a coalition of approximately 40 organizations and individuals concerned with education policy for students with disabilities in Maryland, submits this testimony in support of Senate Bill 557, which would require the installation of video cameras in at least 50% of self-contained special education classrooms by the beginning of the 2022-23 school year and 100% of self-contained special education classrooms by the beginning of the 2023-24 school year.

Many EAC members represent or work with families who have expressed concern to us when their children have come home from school with unexplained injuries or reports indicating that restraint or seclusion or other “hands-on” interventions have been used with their children. These families have expressed to us their frustration with not having access to video footage that would enable them to understand what may have occurred during the school day, particularly when because of young age, trauma or disability, their children are unable to share details of their day with their parents. As advocates for all students with disabilities throughout Maryland, a subset of whom are educated in self-contained special education classrooms and whose parents have made clear to us that they support cameras in schools for a variety of reasons, the EAC supports Senate Bill 557.

Please feel free to contact Leslie Seid Margolis, chairperson, at lesliem@disabilityrightsmd.org or 410-370-5730 for more information.

Respectfully submitted,

Selene Almazan, Selene Almazan Law, LLC

Rene Averitt-Sanzone, The Parents’ Place of Maryland

Linda Barton, Ms.Ed., Education Advocate

Elizabeth Benevides, Howard County Autism Society

Ellen A. Callegary, Law Offices of Ellen A. Callegary, P.A.

Rich Ceruolo, Parent Advocacy Consortium

Michelle Davis, ABCs for Life Success

Jennifer Engel Fisher, Weinfeld Education Group

Ann Geddes, Maryland Coalition of Families

Beth Ann Hancock, Charting the Course

Kalman Hettleman, Independent Advocate

Morgan Durand Horvath, Abilities Network

Nicole Joseph, Law Offices of Nicole Joseph

Rosemary Kitzinger and Marjorie Guldán, Bright Futures, LLC

Ande Kolp, The Arc Maryland

Leslie Seid Margolis, Disability Rights Maryland

(over)

Ellen O'Neill, Atlantic Seaboard Dyslexia Education Center

Maria Ott, Esq.

Rebecca Rienzi, Pathfinders for Autism

Jaime Seaton, BGS Law

Ronnetta Stanley, M.Ed., Loud Voices Together

Wayne Steedman, Steedman Law Group, LLC

Guy Stephens, Alliance Against Seclusion and Restraint

Maureen van Stone, Mallory Finn, Alyssa Thorn, Project HEAL at Kennedy Krieger Institute

Daya Chaney Webb, IMPACT Advocacy

Jessica Williams, M.Ed., Education Due Process Solutions, LLC

Winifred Winston, Decoding Dyslexia Maryland

Parent group 11 HB 226 support.pdf

Uploaded by: Lori Scott

Position: FAV

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

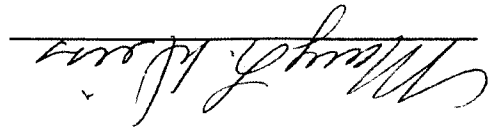
Name: Mary L. Deiss
Address: 6445 Bellevue Dr
Columbia MD 21046
Email: mrsdeiss@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Christina Condon
Address: 8680 New Bedford Harbour
Pasadena, MD 21122
Email: christina.condon81@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Michael Skubs
Address: 4435 Calkwood Court
Dayton, MD 21036
Email: Daytonelectrics@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Michael Skubs

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Michelle L. McBryde
Address: 11238 Goodwin Dr.
NE Apt. MD 21771
Email: ~~evethmcmbride@gmail.com~~

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

~~Michelle L. McBryde~~

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Mary Ann LeMonnier
Address: 8513 Timber Valley Ct
Ellicott City, 21043
Email: lemonnierma@verizon.net

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Mary Ann LeMonnier

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Daphne Green
Address: 1716 Gaiter Woods Ln
Washington, MD 21797
Email: dmgreen@lagreconsulting.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen. Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

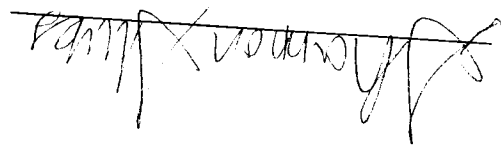
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Name: Shannon Stubbs
Address: 4435 Oakwood Overlook
CT 21034 Dayton, MD
Email: shannon.stubbs@yahoo.com

Name: Respectful Studies
Address: 4435 Oakwood Overlook
CL Dayton, MD 21036
Email: jeff.studies@yahoo.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Stiles

Parent group 5 testimony support HB226.pdf

Uploaded by: Lori Scott

Position: FAV

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording

Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Email: maggie@maryellen.org

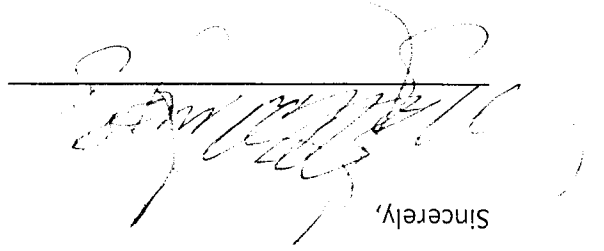
GAITHERBURG, MD 20878

Address: 23533 Peachtree Dr

Name: MARY ELLEN MURPHY

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood. Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen. Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Name: GEETA GUPTA
Address: 5318 Anne Court
Chesapeake MD 21029
Email: geeta369@yahoo.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Geeta Gupta

Name: Dave Baxter, Jr.
Address: 137 Bickhead St
Baltimore, MD 21230
Email: dave.baxter@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

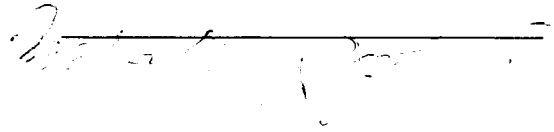
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

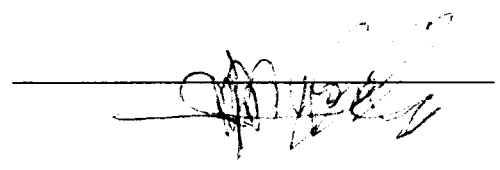
Name: Zachary Scott
Address: 7115 Deep Falls Way
Elkridge, MD 21075
Email: zacharyscott17@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording

Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Martha M. Keel
Address: 9795 Washington Street
Adams Forge, MD 21716
Email: mynaked@comcast.net

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen. Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording

Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Theresa Schmitt
Address: 1301 Oregon Rd
Spokane, WA, 99201
Email: for.williams@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Theresa Schmitt

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording

Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Email: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording

Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Mr. [illegible]
Address: 10400 Old [illegible]
Email: [illegible]

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

[illegible signature]

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording

Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Ben Frazier
Address: 7516 Court Ave
College Park, MD 20740
Email: benfrazier@jmc.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Parent group 7 testimony camera bill support.pdf

Uploaded by: Lori Scott

Position: FAV

Name: Justine McKenna
Address: 5837 Bellanca Dr
Clarkridge MO 64835
Email: justine.mckenna@yahoo.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

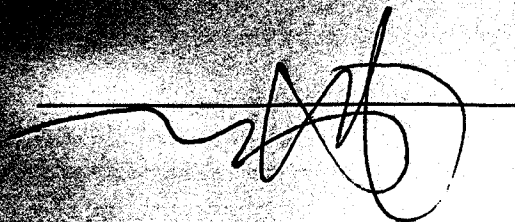
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording

Devices

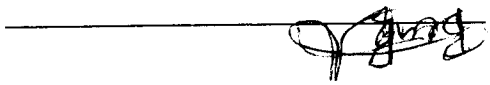
POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Ben Brudner
Address: 7516 Lurard Ave
College Park, MD 20740
Email: benbrudner@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood. Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen. Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Annie Street
Address: 1307 Carroll Rd.
Severna Park, MD 21146
Email: tsa1275.as@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Annie Street

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Alyson Huls
Address: 10380 Old Columbia Rd
Suite 102 Columbia MD 21046
Email: alyson.huls@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Alyson Huls

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording

Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Kathie Gaddock
Address: 70380 Old Columbia Rd
Columbia, MD 21046
Email: thattiekathie34@yahoo.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Kathie Gaddock

Parent grp 10 HB226.pdf

Uploaded by: Lori Scott

Position: FAV

Name: J. Lynn Rovanse
Address: 5744 Whistling Winds Ct
Clarksville MD 21029
Email: ilovegiraffes@yahoo.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV,TX,GA,LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Amola Surya
Name: _____
Address: 9606 Brigadoon Place
Frederick, MD 21704
Email: amola.surya@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

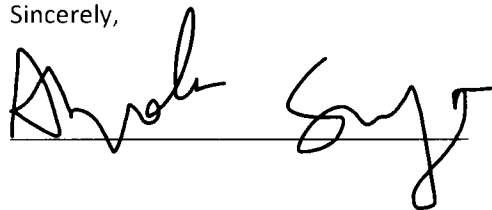
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amola Surya', written over a horizontal line.

Name: Monica Brant
Address: 857 Clover Leaf Ct.
Edgewood, MD
Email: monica.b@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Monica Brant', is written over a horizontal line.

Name: Chloe Mastay
Address: 10388 Old Columbia Rd
Suite 102 Columbia, MD
Email: Chloeamastay@me.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Chloe Mastay

Name: Megan Bober
Address: 10560 Old Columbia Rd
Columbia MO 21046
Email: mwootring@vnu Ab@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Megan Bober

Name:

Robert Harris

Address:

500 Carroll Ave
Bethesda, MD 20815

Email:

Robert.Harris@att.net

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV,TX,GA,LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Robert Harris

Name: Mary Skala
Address: 4805 Oakwood Overlook
Spring Hill, TN 37186
Email: M.Skala@comcast.net

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV,TX,GA,LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Mary Skala

Robert L Norris Jr
3523 Ellen Drive
Westminster, Md 21157
rscnarris@comcast.net

Subject: [REDACTED]

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of 2/15/22.

I am sorry to hear that you are having trouble with your [REDACTED]. I will be happy to help you with this. Please let me know what the problem is and I will do my best to solve it for you. If you need any more information, please let me know. I will be happy to provide it to you. Thank you for your patience and understanding. I will be happy to help you with this. Please let me know what the problem is and I will do my best to solve it for you. If you need any more information, please let me know. I will be happy to provide it to you. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

I am sorry to hear that you are having trouble with your [REDACTED]. I will be happy to help you with this. Please let me know what the problem is and I will do my best to solve it for you. If you need any more information, please let me know. I will be happy to provide it to you. Thank you for your patience and understanding. I will be happy to help you with this. Please let me know what the problem is and I will do my best to solve it for you. If you need any more information, please let me know. I will be happy to provide it to you. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

I am sorry to hear that you are having trouble with your [REDACTED]. I will be happy to help you with this. Please let me know what the problem is and I will do my best to solve it for you. If you need any more information, please let me know. I will be happy to provide it to you. Thank you for your patience and understanding. I will be happy to help you with this. Please let me know what the problem is and I will do my best to solve it for you. If you need any more information, please let me know. I will be happy to provide it to you. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

Robert L Norris Jr

Sydney Norris
3513 Ellen Drive
Westminster, MD 21157
rosenorris@comcast.net

Ms. [Name] [Address] [City] [State] [Zip]

Dear Ms. [Name]:

Thank you for your letter of [Date].

I am sorry to hear that you are having trouble with your [Subject]. I am sure that you are doing your best, but I think you need to [Action]. I have [Action] and I think you should [Action]. I am sure that you will [Action] and I am sure that you will [Action]. I am sure that you will [Action] and I am sure that you will [Action].

I am sure that you will [Action] and I am sure that you will [Action]. I am sure that you will [Action] and I am sure that you will [Action]. I am sure that you will [Action] and I am sure that you will [Action]. I am sure that you will [Action] and I am sure that you will [Action].

I am sure that you will [Action] and I am sure that you will [Action]. I am sure that you will [Action] and I am sure that you will [Action]. I am sure that you will [Action] and I am sure that you will [Action]. I am sure that you will [Action] and I am sure that you will [Action].

Sincerely,



Parent grp 3 HB 226 support testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Lori Scott

Position: FAV

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

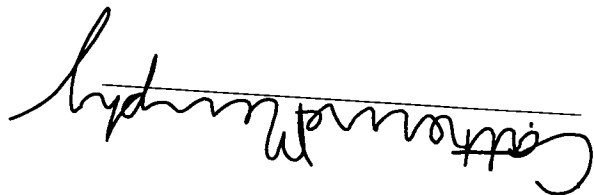
Name: Catherine Murphy
Address: 7432 Flamewood Drive
Clarksville, MD 21029
Email: superbowlmomma@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

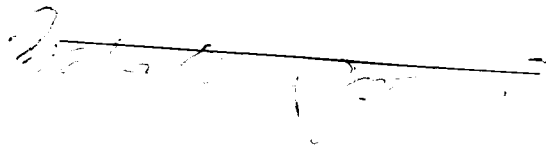
Name: David Baxter, Jr.
Address: 157 Burkhead St
Baltimore, MD 21202
Email: David.Baxter@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

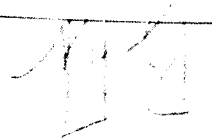
POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Brian Fehr
Address: 8521 Willow Way Ct.
Laurel Md. 20723
Email: Brian.Fehr@cmast.net

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood. Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen. Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

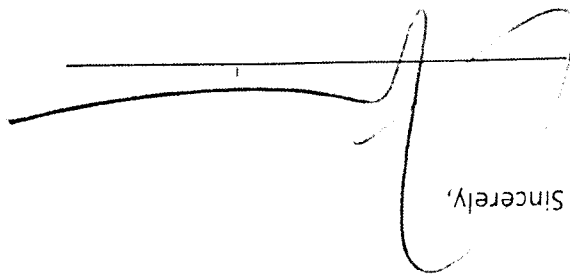
Name: Jean Fehr
Address: 8401 Willow Wisp Ct.
Laurel, Md 20723
Email: ~~jeanfehr@gmail.com~~ not

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: _____
Address: _____
Email: _____

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

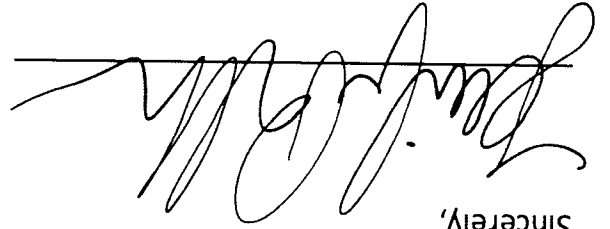
Name: Jennifer (Mina) Han
Address: 32-44 208th Street
Bayside, NY 11361
Email: minajrny101@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

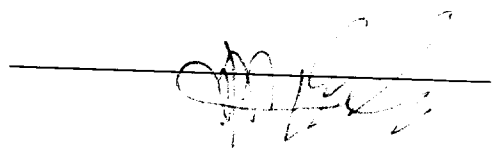
Name: Zachary Scott
Address: 7115 Deep Falls Way
Elkridge, MD 21075
Email: zacharyscott7@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Name: Jennifer Lagana
Address: 8514 SPRING HARVEST COURT
ELLICOTT CITY, MD 21043
Email: planejen@yahoo.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording
Devices

POSITION: Support

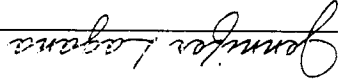
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Mark F. Hoke
Address: 2905 Redwood Lane, Suite 100
Email: mark.f.hoke@mda.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Parent grp 4 support HB226 2022.pdf

Uploaded by: Lori Scott

Position: FAV

Name: Beth Ann Gover
Address: 5785 Wilshire Way, Suite 2102A
Clarksville, Maryland 21029
Email: bethanngover@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

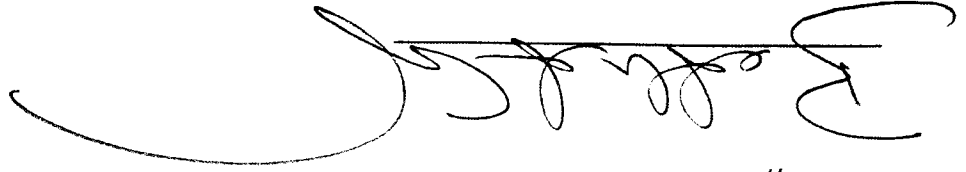
POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen. Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording

Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: David L. Williams

Address: 22533 Rockledge Dr

City/State/Zip: Centersville, VA 20102

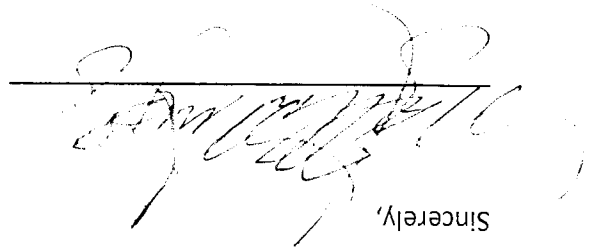
Email: williamsd@comcast.net

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



01/28/2022 03:19 PM TO:14105315986 FROM:8623670116 Page: 2

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

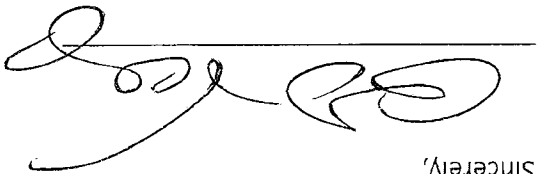
Name: George Steven Fey
Address: 20631 W Hunter Rd
Beallsville, MD 20839
Email: gsfey@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Name: Paul White
Address: 20205 Duling Ln
Mont. Village, MD 20886
Email: fmilbta@yahoo.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely
Paul White

Name: Kamilla W Feys
Address: 20631 W. Hunter Rd
Bethesda, MD 20839
Email: KMFEYS@GMAIL.COM

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

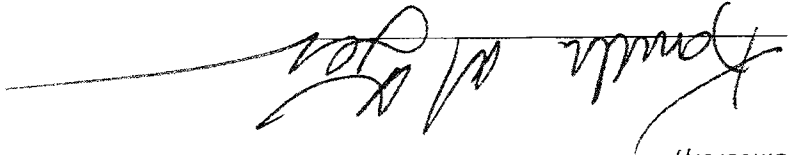
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Name: Garrett Smith
Address: 5313 Home Court
Chesapeake MD 21029
Email: garrett369@a-jalisco.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Garrett Smith

Name: Wendy Smith
Address: 1448 Barnes Bridge Rd
Liggettville, MD 21117
Email: Wendy.Smith@state.gamr.mda

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exterior. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen. Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Wendy Smith

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Kimberly Wissman
Address: 3337 Brantly Rd
Glenwood, MD 21738
Email: kwissman@gmail.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Kimberly Wissman

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording

Devices

POSITION: Support

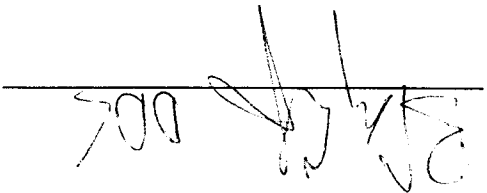
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,


Tracy B. Campbell

Name: Tracy B. Campbell
Address: 10958 Ivy Glen Rd., St. Louis, MO 63122
Email: tracyb@campbell.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: Matthew Williams
Address: 1000 W. 10th St.
Lawrence, KS 66044
Email: mwilliams@ksnc.com

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Matthew Williams

Parent grp 6 testimony HB226 support.pdf

Uploaded by: Lori Scott

Position: FAV

Name: GEE TA Gupta
Address: 5318 Aerie Court
Clarksville MD 21029
Email: geeta369@yahoo.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Geeta Gupta

Name: Dave Baxter, Jr.
Address: 137 Birkhead St
Baltimore MD 21230
Email: david.baxterjr@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Dave Baxter, Jr.

Name: Zachary Scott
Address: 7115 Deep Falls Way
Elkridge, MD 21035
Email: zacharyscott17@yahoo.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

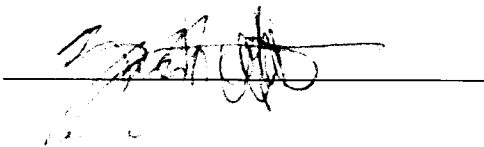
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Name: Martha Moked
Address: 2795 Washington Street
Adamstown, MD 21710
Email: mymoked@comcast.net

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Martha Moked

Name: Laurel Walburger
Address: 8661 Vintage Earth Path
Laurel, MD 20723
Email: r3walb@aol.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Laurel Walburger

Name: Dr. B. Casey Crafton
Address: 10380 Old Columbia Rd Ste. 102
Columbia, MD 21046
Email: candlcrafton@verizon.net

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

BC Crafton DDS

Name: Wendy Smith
Address: 7418 Browns Bridge RD
Highland, MD 20777
Email: Wendy Smith 68@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Wendy Smith

Name: Lacey Guzman
Address: 2836 Aspen Hill Rd
Parkville, MD 21234
Email: lacey.guzman555@yahoo.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

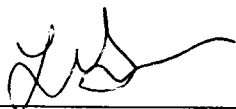
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Name: MARY ELLEN MURPHY
Address: 23533 LOCAMONTAS DR
GAITHERSBURG, MD 20882
Email: Maryellen.murphy@comcast.net

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

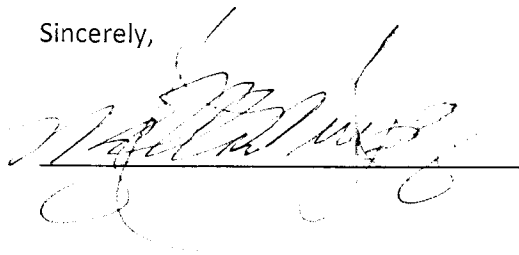
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Parent grp 8 support HB226.pdf

Uploaded by: Lori Scott

Position: FAV

Name: _____
Address: _____
Email: _____

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Name: _____ Jeannie-Marie Leoutsakos
Address: _____ 2813 Millers Way Drive Elllicott City MD
21043
Email: _____ jeannie-marie@jhu.edu _____

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording
Devices

POSITION: Support

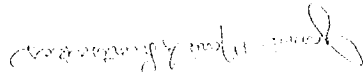
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



House Bill 226 Public Schools-Self Contained Special Education Classrooms Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

POSITION: Support

Devices

Sincerely,

John Roth

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: _____
Address: _____
Email: _____

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exterior. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen. Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

01/02

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

Name: _____

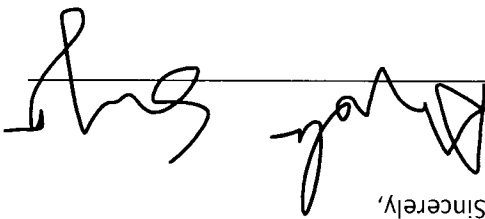
Address: _____

Email: _____

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,


Name: Patricia Kornor
Address: 5000 Bob White Ct
Frick, MD 21753
Email: pkornor@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood. Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen. Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Patricia Kornor
Co-Chair FC Senate

Rosemary Kitzinger & Marjorie Guldán of Bright Futures, LLC
Parents and Special Education Advocates in Carroll County
rosemary@brighfutures.llc
marjorie@brighfutures.llc

House Bill 226: Public School-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

We are in support of House Bill 226 to allow cameras in self-contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Our society is under constant surveillance these days, and yet our most vulnerable children do not have that same protection while in school. Imagine what it feels like to have your non-verbal child come home from school with bumps, bruises or scratches but no explanation from the school staff. To see your child suddenly resist going to school but they cannot explain why. We never want to believe that a child can be harmed at school but the fact is that it happens much more frequently than many choose to believe.

This bill would allow camera surveillance footage to be viewed only when a possible issue is brought to the attention of school administration. The video will not be used to monitor teacher instruction or for student behavior/placement. It is not intended as a 'gotcha' for teachers and may in fact be used to counter false allegations of abuse.

Four states have already passed legislation to put cameras in self-contained special education classrooms (WV, TX, GA, LA). We ask that you support HB226 to allow a third eye to watch over Maryland's most vulnerable children.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Kitzinger & Marjorie Guldán
Bright Futures, LLC

Rosemary Kitzinger & Marjorie Guldán of Bright Futures, LLC
Parents and Special Education Advocates in Carroll County
Carroll County, Georgia

House Bill 226: Public School-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

We are in support of House Bill 226 to allow cameras in self-contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Our society is under constant surveillance these days, and yet our most vulnerable children do not have that same protection while in school. Imagine what it feels like to have your non-verbal child come home from school with bumps, bruises or scratches but no explanation from the school staff. To see your child suddenly resist going to school but they cannot explain why. We never want to believe that a child can be harmed at school but the fact is that it happens much more frequently than many choose to believe.

This bill would allow camera surveillance footage to be viewed only when a possible issue is brought to the attention of school administration. The video will not be used to monitor teacher instruction or for student behavior/placement. It is not intended as a 'gotcha' for teachers and may in fact be used to counter false allegations of abuse.

Four states have already passed legislation to put cameras in self-contained special education classrooms (WV, TX, GA, LA). We ask that you support HB226 to allow a third eye to watch over Maryland's most vulnerable children.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Kitzinger & Marjorie Guldán
Bright Futures, LLC

Name: Darrin Boyd
Address: 9322 Breamore CT
Laurel, MD 20723
Email: boyddarrin@yahoo.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Name: Desmond Wise
Address: 9322 Breamore Ct
Laurel, MD 20723
Email: dwise0900@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

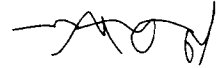
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Parent grp 9 HB226 support.pdf

Uploaded by: Lori Scott

Position: FAV

Name: Jeannie-Marie Leoutsakos

Address: 2813 Millers Way Drive Elllicott City MD

21043

Email: jeannie-marie@jhu.edu

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

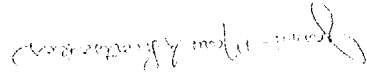
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV,TX,GA,LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Name: Patricia Kornor
Address: 5000 Bob White Ct
Frederick MD 21703
Email: pkornor19@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood. Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen. Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Patricia Kornor
Co-Chair FC SECHC

Rosemary Kitzing & Marjorie Guldán of Bright Futures, LLC
Parents and Special Education Advocates in Carroll County
rosemary@brighfutures.llc
marjorie@brighfutures.llc

House Bill 226:Public School-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording
Devices
Position: Support
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

We are in support of House Bill 226 to allow cameras in self-contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Our society is under constant surveillance these days, and yet our most vulnerable children do not have that same protection while in school. Imagine what it feels like to have your non-verbal child come home from school with bumps, bruises or scratches but no explanation from the school staff. To see your child suddenly resist going to school but they cannot explain why. We never want to believe that a child can be harmed at school but the fact is that it happens much more frequently than many choose to believe.

This bill would allow camera surveillance footage to be viewed only when a possible issue is brought to the attention of school administration. The video will not be used to monitor teacher instruction or for student behavior/placement. It is not intended as a 'gotcha' for teachers and may in fact be used to counter false allegations of abuse.

Four states have already passed legislation to put cameras in self-contained special education classrooms (WV, TX, GA, LA). We ask that you support HB226 to allow a third eye to watch over Maryland's most vulnerable children.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Kitzing & Marjorie Guldán
Bright Futures, LLC

Rosemary Kitzinger & Marjorie Guldán
Parents and Special Education Advocates in Carroll County
Carroll County, Maryland
2022-2023

House Bill 226: Public School-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

We are in support of House Bill 226 to allow cameras in self-contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Our society is under constant surveillance these days, and yet our most vulnerable children do not have that same protection while in school. Imagine what it feels like to have your non-verbal child come home from school with bumps, bruises or scratches but no explanation from the school staff. To see your child suddenly resist going to school but they cannot explain why. We never want to believe that a child can be harmed at school but the fact is that it happens much more frequently than many choose to believe.

This bill would allow camera surveillance footage to be viewed only when a possible issue is brought to the attention of school administration. The video will not be used to monitor teacher instruction or for student behavior/placement. It is not intended as a 'gotcha' for teachers and may in fact be used to counter false allegations of abuse.

Four states have already passed legislation to put cameras in self-contained special education classrooms (WV, TX, GA, LA). We ask that you support HB226 to allow a third eye to watch over Maryland's most vulnerable children.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Kitzinger & Marjorie Guldán
Bright Futures, LLC

Name: Darria Boyd
Address: 9322 Breamore CT
Laurel, MD 20723
Email: boyddarria@yahoo.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



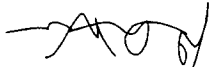
Name: Desmond Wise
Address: 9322 Breamore Ct
Laurel, MD 20723
Email: dwise0900@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices
POSITION: Support
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV,TX,GA,LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!



Sincerely,

SB0577 Favorable Ben Salango Esquire letter in sup

Uploaded by: Martha Moked

Position: FAV



206 CAPITOL STREET
SALANGO LAW

CHARLESTON, WV 25301
304-342-0512
SALANGOLAW.COM

February 1 , 2022

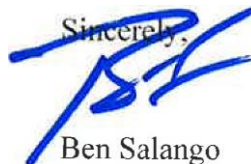
Dear Sir/Madam:

I write in support of Maryland Senate Bill 0577.

On October 4, 2018, Amber Pack suspected that her 6-year-old autistic, nonverbal daughter was being abused at school. She placed a recording device in her hair that morning and sent her to school. When her daughter came home, Amber listened to the recording which caught eight hours of horrific abuse by a teacher and two aides upon her daughter and several special needs children at Berkeley Heights Elementary School. "I'll punch you in the face I ought to back hand you right in the teeth" and "I'm going to pull your hair until you start crying", are just a few of the abhorrent things captured in one day of recording. It's heartbreaking to think that these children were being treated so cruelly and had no way to tell their parents. We knew something had to change to try and prevent this from happening in the future.

As a result, in 2019, West Virginia Senate Bill 632 was passed requiring video cameras in self-contained public special education classrooms. The cameras are used to review any reported or suspected abuse in a self-contained classroom.

It did not take long for the new law to catch other teachers and aides abusing special needs children. In 2021, teachers and aides at two more schools, Horace Mann Middle School and Holz Elementary, were caught physically and verbally abusing special needs students in their classrooms. Cameras captured 10 instances of abuse and mistreatment in one classroom at Horace Mann Middle School. Without the cameras, no one would have known, and those innocent children would have continued to endure physical and emotional abuse.

Sincerely,

Ben Salango

This problem is not limited to West Virginia. This is a nationwide issue that has been ongoing for years. It's time to stand up and protect our most vulnerable.

Please vote yes to support Maryland House Bill 0577. We must be the voice for the voiceless.

SB0577 Favorable Linda Hill Testimony in Favor of

Uploaded by: Martha Moked

Position: FAV

Dear Members of the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee,

Had it not been for cameras being installed in my grandson's class for him and his classmates, my daughter nor the other three parents would've known their children were being physically, verbally and emotionally abused by their teacher and his three aides.

I'm so glad that the school went through the tapes, and saw where my grandson had been pushed down on his knee, which is still giving him trouble. The other students were slapped, pushed down, pinched and cursed at as well, and it was on tape. The teacher and his two male aides and one female aide were all aware of the camera, but since Horace Mann Middle School is a school of excellence, I guess there was no need to view a tape. One of the students in the class, a female, wouldn't stop crying, and another teacher reported the constant crying to the Vice Principal, who brought it to the attention of the Principal, who decided to look at that day's classroom activity. Wow, this really happened!

The principal got the Charleston, WV police department involved, and they ended up looking at tapes from January 2021 to the end of May 2021, even though most of the parents had taken their children out of the class. One teacher and three aides took advantage of four non-verbal and autistic students. Thank God for cameras in the classroom, because had the camera not caught this activity, my grandson and the other three students could still be going through this torture.

One has had a hearing, and before she takes the plea deal, her attorney wants to see the tapes. The other three are soon to have their hearings as well. They deserve everything that they might receive.

Sincerely,

Linda King
607 Crestlyn Drive
Charleston, WV 25302

SB0577 Favorable Russell Cook Disability Rights We

Uploaded by: Martha Moked

Position: FAV

Disability

January 28, 2022

I am writing on behalf of Disability Rights of West Virginia, the designated Protection and Advocacy Agency for persons with disabilities in West Virginia. My purpose in writing is to provide information regarding affirmative steps the State of West Virginia has taken regarding the placement and usage of video equipment in certain special education classrooms.

In the fall of 2018, the mother of a special needs student enrolled at Berkeley Heights Elementary School in Martinsburg, West Virginia became concerned after discovering unexplained bruises on her daughter's arm. Suspecting possible abuse, she placed a small recording device in her daughter's hair. The recordings subsequently revealed systematic abuse by a teacher and two teachers aids. The teacher and both aids eventually resigned from their positions, were criminally charged with misdemeanor offenses, and also faced severe civil penalties.

There was, however, a positive consequence from these horrible acts. Widespread publicity of the Berkeley Heights Elementary incidents brought the issue into the public forum. During the 2019 Regular Session of the West Virginia Legislature, Senate Bill 632 was introduced for legislative action. The bill was co-sponsored by nearly one-third of the state senators.

S.B. 632 provided for the placement of video cameras in self-contained classrooms which, as per the language of the bill, meant classrooms in public schools where a majority of the students were provided special education instruction. The bill contained a number of provisions relating to the placement of the cameras; designated the principal as the custodian of the cameras and recordings; included a requirement that a written explanation be provided to the principal and the county board of education for any interruptions in records; established written notice requirements for parents, school boards and educators of the placement of such cameras; and established guidelines for retention and viewing of recordings from the classrooms.

S.B. 632 passed the West Virginia Senate by a vote of 30 - 4, and the House of Delegates by a margin of 91 - 2 (7 not voting). The bill was signed into law by Governor Jim Justice on March 22, 2019, with an effective date of July 1, 2019. The bill is codified in west Virginia Code, S 18-20-11 (2019)._____

Removing Barriers to Opportunity and Equality

The Protection & Advocacy System for the State of WV

Disability Rights of West Virginia • 1207 Quarrier Street, Suite 400 • Charleston, WV 25301

800.950.5250 304.346.0847 • contact@drofwv.org

The enactment of this legislation has already shown to be effective. Recently, there have been highly publicized cases in West Virginia demonstrating the effectiveness of

video equipment in bringing to light incidents of child abuse which, but for the use of the equipment, may have gone completely undiscovered.

In May of 2021 a criminal investigation was initiated at Horace Mann Middle School in Charleston, West Virginia after a teacher and two classroom aides were observed on camera physically and emotionally abusing several special education students. The alleged abusers face pending criminal charges, and the parents of the student victims have filed civil lawsuits against the alleged offenders and the Kanawha County Board of Education.

Similarly, in November of 2021 a special needs teacher at Holz Elementary School in Charleston was indicted for twenty-three (23) misdemeanor counts of battery and a single count of verbal abuse of a noncommunicative child. The indictment followed a months-long investigation that began in September of 2021 and was based primarily on incidents that were caught on the cameras in the special education classroom. As with the Horace Mann incidents, the former teacher and the Board of Education are the subjects of civil lawsuits.

The importance of the presence of video equipment in these cases cannot be understated. Many of these children in these classrooms are nonverbal and are therefore unable to report instances of verbal abuse, as well as physical abuse which may not leave physical marks or signs. For example, video from the Holz Elementary allegedly shows the teacher slamming a child head against a school desk. Without the video record, and without the child's disclosure of the incident, this abuse would go undiscovered.

The State of West Virginia has learned a valuable lesson as to the value of such video equipment. West Virginia continues to understand the importance of video equipment for the protection of children with special needs. On January 20, 2022, the Senate Education Committee advanced Senate Bill 261, which, among other provisions, amends the current video camera bill to extend the amount of time that the video is required to be retained.

West Virginia's adoption of legislation requiring the placement of video cameras in special education classroom was brought about through appalling circumstances. The enactment of the W. Va. Code S 18-20-11 has, however, proven to be a powerful tool for the detection of alleged abuse and/or neglect of special education students, and the prosecution of the offenders.

Please feel free to contact me at (304) 391-5052 or by email at rcook@drofwv.org if you have any questions about this matter.

Sincerely,



Russell S. Cook, Esq. (Bar. No 5255)

Legal Director

Disability Rights West Virginia

1207 Quarrier Street, Suite 400

Charleston, West Virginia 25301

SB0577 Favorable Written Testimony of Martha Moked

Uploaded by: Martha Moked

Position: FAV

Dear Members of the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee,

I am writing to you about SB0577 that requires video recording devices be installed in self-contained special education classrooms. I believe this bill is important in protecting the most vulnerable students in our schools, some who are non-verbal, and can't speak for themselves.

I'd like to give you a little background about why I'm advocating for this legislation. For two years, while my children were enrolled at our local elementary school in Adamstown (Frederick County), I substituted in special education classrooms at the school. I witnessed both verbal and physical abuse of non-verbal, special needs children by several teachers and educational instructional aides.

Abuse in a Local School

The abuse of students by one particular teacher had been brought to the attention of school administrators for 3 years, and they did nothing. This abuse included but was not limited to yelling an inch from students' faces, hitting students on the back of the head, smacking their hands, kicking their feet, grabbing their arms, pushing them, forcibly pushing their heads down, throwing a chair across the room, cursing at them, and making racial comments. After one of the classroom instructional aides retired, she told me about a daily journal she kept while she was assigned to that teacher's classroom, recording the daily abuse by this teacher. She had previously provided this journal to the school administrators, and they did nothing. We contacted Frederick County Public Schools, the school district's Accountability Office, Child Protective Services, the sheriff's department, and MD Department of Education, and investigations were opened by FCPS and the sheriff's department. In her journal, she documented how one student was terrified of the refrigerator. The teacher and aides threatened the refrigerator as punishment, and one time took him to the refrigerator and put his head inside. Several years after this incident, he drew pictures of this incident. It still haunts him. One student, while in this teacher's class, would cry every morning when he had to get on the bus for school, and his mother never knew why.

The FCPS representative who conducted the investigation spoke with 7 different staff members who confirmed this abusive behavior. The superintendent made the decision to keep this teacher in the classroom but move him to different schools. The district attorney would not charge him because the victims weren't able to speak about what happened to them. If there had been video footage, it could have spoken for these children.

As I sat in these classrooms, I thought about what these students would say if they could speak to their abuser or tell their parents about the abuse, as well as, how I would feel if I was a parent of one of these students and I knew my child was being treated this way. These parents should be able to send their child to school and expect that they be treated with patience and respect.

Abuse Cases

When I started advocating for this legislation, I started to research lawsuits brought by families of special education students abused by teachers and staff members at schools nationwide and settlements of those suits. I found that in the last 11 years, school districts have paid more than \$46 million to settle litigation filed as a result of special education students being abused (3 settlement amounts were undisclosed so this number is larger than \$46 million). As I've continued my research, I've found 20 additional incidents of abuse reported by the news media in the last 5 years, and I have 28 more states to go. This is an issue happening across the country and across Maryland.

Camera Laws in Other States

Texas (effective June 2015), West Virginia (effective July 2019), and Louisiana (effective June 2021) have passed similar legislation requiring video cameras be installed in special education classrooms. In Texas and Louisiana, a parent, legal guardian, or administrator can request the camera installation. Georgia and Florida passed legislation to run pilot programs to install video cameras in special education classrooms in a test county.

Abuse Cases Reported in WV and Texas Since Cameras Installed

Since the use of cameras law was passed in West Virginia in 2019, incidents of abuse towards special education students have been caught on video at four different schools. Abuse of four students at Horace Mann Middle School in Charleston was caught on video after a school administrator was concerned about abuse occurring. Since there was video footage of the abuse, criminal charges were brought against several staff members and civil lawsuits were filed by the students' families. The latest case of abuse caught on video resulted in the arrest of a teacher who was charged with 23 counts of battery and one count of verbal abuse at another Charleston school, Holz Elementary School. As a result of these incidents, this year West Virginia is taking steps to strengthen their camera law.

In October 2017, after the use of camera law was passed in Texas, the mother of a special education student requested that a camera be installed in her son's classroom. Her son suffers from Angelman's Syndrome, a condition where if he hit his head in a certain location and received a head injury, it could kill him. One day, she received a telephone call from the school that her son had a head injury and was told that he fell and hit his head. She requested to see the videotape of the incident and discovered that an instructional aide pushed her son. As a result, he hit his head and sustained an injury that made his head bleed. As a result of numerous incidents, this year Texas is taking steps requiring cameras to be installed in all their special education classrooms.

I believe that Maryland can be one of the leaders in our country, along with Texas, West Virginia, and Louisiana, in giving our most vulnerable students a voice by requiring video cameras in self-contained, special education classrooms.

I hope you will support SB0577 during the 2022 Legislative Session.

Thank you for taking the time to review my testimony.

Martha Moked
2795 Washington Street
Adamstown, MD 21710
(301)810-5549

PDFcameraletter.pdf

Uploaded by: Mary Mullen

Position: FAV

Kathy Mullen
7040 Homeland Court
Prince Frederick, MD 20678
mullenkathy@gmail.com

House Bill 226/SB0577 Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22 - Hearing 2/16/22

I am the grandmother of a nonverbal child with level 2 autism who receives his education in a self-contained classroom in Anne Arundel County. I am in support of this bill to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms in MD to give a voice to him as well as others who cannot come home and tell how their day was, as well as teachers who may be accused of harming kids behind these closed doors. I ask you to put yourself in the shoes of the parents who have no idea what is happening to their child during the school day. How would you feel if you sent your child out the door for the day and could not discuss with them how their day went? When my grandson comes home sounding hoarse, I want to know if he's been crying all day. When he comes home and starts hitting his behind, I want to know if he was spanked that day. Can you imagine the frustration these poor children must feel not being able to express their feelings? I ask you to go 24 hours without talking or writing anything and try to let your family members know what you need, what you're thinking and how your day was, I bet you would be very upset and frustrated by hour two. I know these children can be demanding and that is why we must have the absolute best of the best as far as teachers and aides for them. The camera footage can give real time information to administrators and Central Office staff when a complaint or allegation is voiced. This video, by law, will only be used to investigate allegations of harm, abuse or neglect to students and vindicate or convict staff of crimes of abuse or harm to nonverbal students. If I were a teacher, I would welcome this video, what would be the benefit of not having it available? Store owners have cameras to protect their property, home owners have ring doorbells and cameras to protect their homes, schools do have cameras too in hallways etc. why aren't there cameras in these classrooms?

Parents need to feel comfortable knowing that these kids will be looked after with love, acceptance and compassion. We need to feel good about who is watching our kids during the day. It is very hard to trust when you hear such horror stories of abuse and this would be one way to start building that trust. I don't feel that restraints should EVER be used! If you feel that a child should be restrained, call the parents to come get them, it doesn't make them feel safe and it causes physiological harm to these kids. Would you like to be restrained because you are having a hard time expressing yourself? I hope that I received correct information when I was told that by law, restraints cannot be used in the Maryland school system.

We have recently seen horrific incidents in Baltimore, Frederick County and other counties in MD where special needs students have been harmed over and over again in these classrooms

with no accountability from the district and in some instances allowing abusers to move from one school to another without termination.

I am happy to hear that the ARC Central Chesapeake Region has gotten involved with the school system and that is a good and positive thing. The more resources, eyes and ears we have looking out for our children, the better.

Please support HB226/SB0577 to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff. We need to do better for these students, we owe it to them.

Sincerely,
Kathy Mullen

SB577 Cameras in Classroom - PFA HCAS.pdf

Uploaded by: Melissa Rosenberg

Position: FAV



**Autism
Society**
Howard
County



To: Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee

CC: MD State Legislature

From: Howard County Autism Society
Pathfinders for Autism

Date: February 15, 2022

Subject: HCAS Support of SB0577- Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

To Members of the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee:

On behalf of the Howard County Autism Society and Pathfinders for Autism, we are collectively submitting this testimony today to express our strong support for SB577 - Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices submitted by Senator Klausmeier, with a companion bill, HB226, submitted by Delegates Guyton and Luedtke.

Although we were disappointed that bill did not move forward in 2019 or 2020, we are grateful it is moving ahead again this year in support of our most vulnerable residents. Hopefully, the third time will be the charm for this important effort.

The number of stories continue to grow each year of camera footage capturing abuse of children in our schools. Yet, for every one of these instances, there are many more reported or suspected cases of abuse that could be confirmed or refuted if there was a systematic way to capture video evidence in the matter. We are all acutely aware of the ruling by the Department of Justice right here in our own state when staff from Frederick County Public Schools illegally restrained students with disabilities. Our non-speaking children - with Autism or other disabilities - could never have shared with their family and loved ones that they had been harmed. But a camera may have captured and possibly prevented those incidents. Several other states, including our neighbor, West Virginia, have heeded the message and implemented similar legislation in an effort to protect our students.

Children in Special Education classrooms are especially vulnerable to abuse because they often lack the ability to fully communicate any concerns adequately, creating the potential for egregious and continuing victimization. This bill is designed to provide recordings in self-

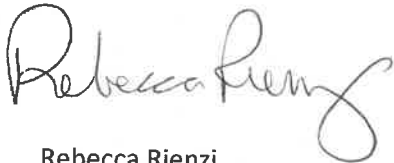
contained special education classrooms where these children may be isolated with limited staff and students, and has the potential to significantly reduce abuse, neglect, bullying, harassment or other behaviors/violations against our children who may not be able to fully advocate for their own safety and well-being. We must do better to protect this vulnerable population of students and continue to provide quality instruction in a safe environment conducive to learning. Although a bit more limited than last year, this bill still provides a much-needed step towards that end.

We also believe that this bill as written addresses any potential concerns about the use of the cameras for monitoring teachers and it sets forth clear guidelines for viewing the recordings. In our opinion, this balanced bill provides much needed protections to our most vulnerable children and does not endanger the privacy of the children or staff. To that end, we recommend that implementation of this important protection be done with sufficient planning to provide consistency across the state. It is imperative that the school systems, staff, and parents can be confident that this key initiative is installed with rigor and efficacy and with proper safeguards.

Thank you in advance for your strong consideration in supporting this bill for the protection of our community. We must make this a reality for the benefit of our school staff, our families, and, most importantly, our children that may not be able to advocate or protect themselves.

We once again would like to thank Ms. Lori Scott for her work in advocating for this bill, Delegate Guyton and Senator Klausmeier for sponsoring this bill on the floor. Your efforts on behalf of our community are very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Rienzi
Executive Director
Pathfinders for Autism
rrienzi@pathfindersforautism.org
443-330-5370 x 101



Melissa Rosenberg
Executive Director
Howard County Autism Society
melissa.rosenberg@howard-autism.org
410-290-3466

Christopher Johnson Written Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Meredith Riley

Position: FAV

Name: Christopher Johnson

Address: 6445 Belleview Drive

Columbia MD 21046

Email: Chris02Johnson03@gmail.com

Senate Bill 577: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/36/2022 3:00 PM

I am in support of SB577 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV,TX,GA,LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support SB577 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Elba Hinish Written Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Meredith Riley

Position: FAV

Name: ELBA S. HINISIL

Address: 1700 New Hampton Lane
Woodstock, MD 21163

Email: _____

Senate Bill 577: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/16/2022 - 1:00 PM

I am in support of SB577 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV,TX,GA,LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support SB577 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Elba S. Hinisil

Fracassi.pdf

Uploaded by: Meredith Riley

Position: FAV

Name: David Fracassi
Address: 8348 Montomerv run road
Ellicott city MD 21043
Em: dfracassi17@gmail.com

Senate Bill 577: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/16/2022 - 1:00 PM

I am in support of SB577 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV,TX,GA,LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support SB577to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



HB226 Kelso Letter of Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Meredith Riley

Position: FAV

Name: Heather Kelso
Address: 8505 Black Star Circle
Columbia, MD 21045
Email: _____

Senate Bill 577: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support


Hearing: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/16/2022 - 1:00 PM

I am in support of SB577 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV,TX,GA,LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support SB577 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

 _____

Isaac Camlin.pdf

Uploaded by: Meredith Riley

Position: FAV

Name: Isaac Camlin
Address: 11331 Wild Meadows St
Waldorf, MD 20601
Email: cfoldbmore1@gmail.com

Senate Bill 577: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Education, Health, and Environmental

Affairs 2/16/2022 - 1:00 PM

I am in support of SB577 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support SB577 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Isaac Camlin

Name: Jemi Camlin
Address: 11331 Wild Meadows Street
Waldorf MD 20601
Email: jemstyles@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

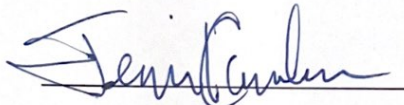
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Makeba Smith FINAL.pdf

Uploaded by: Meredith Riley

Position: FAV

Name: Makeba Smith
Address: 10806 Will Painter Drive
Owings Mills, MD 21117
Email: SunShyne021@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV,TX,GA,LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Mickey Smith

Mary Johnson Written Testimony FINAL.pdf

Uploaded by: Meredith Riley

Position: FAV

Name: Mary Johnson
Address: 6445 Belleview Drive
Columbia MD 21046
Email: LoriDJohnson@gmail.com

Senate Bill 577: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/16/2022 - 1:00 PM

I am in support of SB577 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support SB577 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mary Johnson', is written over a horizontal line.

Octavia Dukes-Georges FINAL.pdf

Uploaded by: Meredith Riley

Position: FAV

Name: Octavia Dukes-Georges
Address: 8707 48th Place
College Park, MD 20740
Email: cheecheegeorges@yahoo.com

Senate Bill 577: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/16/2022 - 1:00 PM

I am in support of SB577 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support SB577 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Octavia Dukes-Georges

Name: Allonde Georges
Address: 8707 48th Place
College Park, Maryland 20740
Email: cheecheegeorges@yahoo.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Allonde Georges

Name: Adam J. Bailey
Address: 2188 Commissary Circle
Odenton, MD
Email: adamjbailey08@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Adam Bailey

Name: Jada O. Bailey
Address: 11000th Avenue

Name: Steven I. Dukes
Address: 8207 48th Place
College Park, Md 20740
Email: Isaiahdukes@hotmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Steven I. Dukes

Name: Jada O. Bailey
Address: 10922 Pleasant Acres
Hyattsville Maryland
Email: jadamama92@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Jada Bailey

Sheri Hinish SB577.pdf

Uploaded by: Meredith Riley

Position: FAV

Name: Sheri Hinish
Address: 12673 Vincents Way
Clarksville, MD 21029
Email: srhinish@gmail.com

Senate Bill 577: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

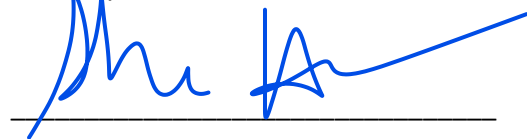
Hearing: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/16/2022 - 1:00 PM

I am in support of SB577 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV,TX,GA,LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support SB577 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sh Hinish', is written over a horizontal line.

Thomas Henry FINAL.pdf

Uploaded by: Meredith Riley

Position: FAV

Name: Thomas Henry
Address: 12986 Brighton Dam Rd
Clarksville, MP 21029
Email: hennyits@aol.com

Senate Bill 577: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/16/2022 - 1:00 PM

I am in support of SB577 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support SB577 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Tom Henry

Name: Brandon Estrain

Address: 7115 Deep Falls Way
Elkridge, MD 21075

Email: branderestrain@gmail.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Name: Damion Dengler
Address: 3 Storewood Ct.
Phoenix, MD 21131
Email: dddengler@msn.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

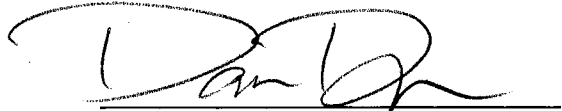
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



Damion Dengler

Name: Laura Forrest
Address: 791 Match Point Dr
Arnold, MD 21012
Email: stealthygr@aol.com

House Bill 226: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

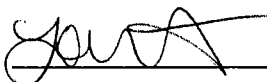
Hearing: Ways and Means 2/3/2022

I am in support of HB226 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support HB226 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,



SB0577 Favorable Nancy Hawker Written Testimony in

Uploaded by: Nancy Hawker

Position: FAV

February 7, 2022

Dear Members of the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 0577(HB0226) which would require each Board of Education in Maryland to install video cameras in special education classrooms. I feel it is critical to implement this law in order to protect special education students and give their parents a way to receive answers when they believe an adverse incident has affected their child.

I worked as a Special Education Assistant for 13 years with Frederick County Public Schools. During that time, I was assigned to work for 5 months in a class with all special education students. I observed numerous egregious actions towards these students. It ranged from verbal abuse, physical abuse, taunting and racial slurs. This behavior was brought to the attention of the principal, Child Protective Services, the sheriff's department, and Frederick County Public Schools Accountability Department. Unfortunately, nothing was done except to move this teacher from school to school. This particular teacher is currently assigned to work one on one with special education students. If a camera were in the room, perhaps this would not have occurred. At the very least, it would have been evidence that it did occur. Thank you for considering this bill which would protect children who are unable to defend or protect themselves.

Sincerely,

Nancy Hawker
110 East Main Street
Burkitsville, MD 21718
(301)834-7869

Testimony In Support of - SB 577 - HB 226 - EHE -

Uploaded by: Rich Ceruolo

Position: FAV



February 16, 2022

Maryland Senate
11 Bladen St.
Annapolis, MD. 21401

In Support of SB 577 / HB 226: Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms – Use of Video Recording Devices.

Members of the Maryland Senate's Education, Health and Environment Committee.

I am the parent of a child with multiple challenges and disabilities. He has been bounced between 504 plans and IEP plans over the course of 8 years within AACPS's system. We have had many incidents of behavioral issues with my son during that time. And we have been the recipient of that dreaded midday phone call from our child's school. There has been an incident, he is a bit banged up, can we come and please pick him up to get checked by his doctor. No parent, or special education parent, wants to be the recipient of that type of phone call.

Following my son's behavioral incidents, copies of video and written documentation were often hard, if not impossible, to obtain from my son's school administration and larger school system. Delays, and in some cases refusals, to share documentation and video with us raised our suspicions. And this often left us wondering, "How is our child being treated when we drop him off at school each day?" Video cameras and improved transparency around this documentation is crucial to student safety issues and improving education for students and school staff members across Maryland.

Educating special education students can be difficult and trying work. Frustrations sometimes boil over into reactions and harmful (both mental and physical) consequences for our children. Special education students statistically have higher incidence rates of being bullied, abused or mishandled during the school day by their fellow students, school staff members, teachers and school administrators. That is an unacceptable reality within today's, modern inclusive special education models.

A better-informed education community, is an empowered and more successful education community. Harnessing that knowledge gleaned from video and data gathered by video cameras is crucial to improving student safety, reducing incidents of trauma, school system training and an invaluable resource for improving the future outcomes for all of Maryland's special education students.

Please return a favorable report on SB 577 / HB 226 in order to provide a safer and more inclusive education environments for all special education students across the State of Maryland.

Mr. Richard Ceruolo | Policy Director - Parent Advocacy Consortium | richceruolo@gmail.com

SB 0577-HoCo State's Attorney-Favorable-2.15.22.pd

Uploaded by: Rich Gibson

Position: FAV



SENATE BILL 0577

Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classroom-Use of Video Recording Devices

RICH GIBSON, HOWARD COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

POSITION: FAVORABLE FOR SB 0577

February 15, 2022

My name is Rich Gibson, I am the State's Attorney for Howard County. Part of my obligations as State's Attorney is to advocate for laws that enhance the safety and well-being of our community; that is the reason I am writing today to offer my support for Senate Bill 0577.

This bill, if passed, will offer a level of protection which currently does not exist for the weakest among us. Unfortunately, there is evil in this world and wrongdoers often seek to prey upon those that lack the ability to effectively advocate on their own behalf. Special needs students, some of whom are non-verbal or have difficulty communicating due to mental, physical, or emotional disabilities, are all too often taken advantage of by others in their learning environment, a place where they should feel safe to learn, play, and grow.

Senate Bill 0577, if put into effect, would provide a mechanism for protecting those students because cameras placed in those learning environments could deter and certainly could capture evidence of inappropriate conduct in those spaces. Evidence that would be critical in holding wrongdoers accountable and that allows us to not only protect that student, but also protect other students from future harmful conduct. Additionally, the footage obtained from the cameras could serve to exonerate individuals where there are allegations of wrongful behavior. For these reasons, **I respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 0577.**

B Stolte FINAL SB 577.pdf

Uploaded by: Sherry Nickerson

Position: FAV

Name: Beth Stolte

Address: 9210 May Day Ct, Columbia, MD 21045

Email: elizabeth.stolte@hotmail.com

Senate Bill 577: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/16/2022 - 1:00 PM

I am in support of SB577 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV,TX,GA,LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support SB577 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B Stolte". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The letter "B" is large and loops around the first part of the name. The last name "Stolte" is written in a more standard cursive script.

Beth Boardman SB 577.pdf

Uploaded by: Sherry Nickerson

Position: FAV

Name: Beth Boardman

Address: 18126 York Rd

Parkton, MD 21120

Email: boardman.beth@gmail.com

Senate Bill 577: Public Schools-Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms-Use of Video Recording Devices

POSITION: Support

Hearing: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/16/2022 - 1:00 PM

I am in support of SB577 to allow cameras in self contained special education classrooms in Maryland. Surveillance cameras have become the cornerstone of security everywhere in today's world and schools are no exception. There are surveillance cameras in schools as a safety and security measure and a deterrent to crimes in our school hallways, front offices, gymnasiums, cafeterias and exteriors. Video surveillance in self contained special education classrooms will add a layer of protection for nonverbal students who can not come home and tell their parents about what happened to them in school as these specialized classrooms support many students who can not rely on speech alone to be heard and understood.

Camera surveillance footage would only be viewed when a concern of abuse, harm or neglect is alleged. The footage would be unmonitored and not viewed unless an incident is reported and the videos will not be used to monitor teacher pedagogy or student behavior and placement. Schools are also public spaces and individuals who work in public spaces have a low expectation of privacy. We send our kids to school to be educated in a safe environment and this does not always happen.

Four states (WV, TX, GA, LA) already have cameras in self-contained classrooms and we are hoping that you will support SB577 to ensure vulnerable students and teachers have a third eye to minimize harm to students and protect teachers from a false allegation. A third eye in these classrooms is necessary to determine what happened if a child comes home with bruises, bumps or injuries. We need cameras to be their voices!

Sincerely,

Beth Boardman

Cameras In Classroom.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Vanessa Knight
112 Maple Dr
Annapolis ,MD 21403
vanknightvt@gmail.com

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft and are a powerful tool when used properly. The camera can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vanessa Knight

Cameras In Classroom.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Vanessa Knight
112 Maple Dr
Annapolis ,MD 21403
vanknightvt@gmail.com

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft and are a powerful tool when used properly. The camera can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vanessa Knight

eric.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Eric Butler
8057 Silver Fox Way, Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732
butler2134@gmail.com

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly.

The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Butler

eric.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Eric Butler
8057 Silver Fox Way, Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732
butler2134@gmail.com

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly.

The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Butler

Gloria.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Name: Gloria Perpuse

Address: 4338 Barberry Drive, Huntingtown, MD 20639-2212 in Calvert County

Email: gperpuse@hotmail.com

House Bill 226

Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries. Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations. Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly. The camers can only be accessed when an incident is reported. **Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.**

Respectfully Submitted, Gloria Perpuse

Gloria.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Name: Gloria Perpuse

Address: 4338 Barberry Drive, Huntingtown, MD 20639-2212 in Calvert County

Email: gperpuse@hotmail.com

House Bill 226

Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries. Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations. Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly. The camers can only be accessed when an incident is reported. **Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.**

Respectfully Submitted, Gloria Perpuse

Janelle.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Janelle Lucarino

711 Cottonwood Dr., Severna Park, MD 21146

J7lucarino@gmail.com

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording

Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the

students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights

attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students

as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false

allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to

harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly.

The camers can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our

most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janelle Lucarino

Janelle.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Janelle Lucarino

711 Cottonwood Dr., Severna Park, MD 21146

J7lucarino@gmail.com

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording

Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the

students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights

attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students

as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false

allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to

harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly.

The camers can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our

most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janelle Lucarino

Jennifer A.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Jennifer Anderson <jenexit@gmail.com>

8:00 PM (2
hours ago)

to me

Jennifer Anderson
Charles Walker
5033 Breezy Point Rd, Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732
JenExit@gmail.com

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly.

The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Anderson
Charles Walker
301-758-0391

--

Jen 301-758-0391

Jennifer Anderson
Broker/Owner
EXIT By the Bay Realty
301-758-0391 cell
443-975-7555 office

Jennifer A.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Jennifer Anderson <jenexit@gmail.com>

8:00 PM (2
hours ago)

to me

Jennifer Anderson
Charles Walker
5033 Breezy Point Rd, Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732
JenExit@gmail.com

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly.

The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Anderson
Charles Walker
301-758-0391

--

Jen 301-758-0391

Jennifer Anderson
Broker/Owner
EXIT By the Bay Realty
301-758-0391 cell
443-975-7555 office

Laura O.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Laura O'Connor
1840 Foggy Bottom Ct.
Sunderland, MD 20689
OCONNORL@Comcast.net

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video
Recording
Devices
Position: Support
Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft and are a powerful tool when used properly. The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura O'Connor

Laura O.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Laura O'Connor
1840 Foggy Bottom Ct.
Sunderland, MD 20689
OCONNORL@Comcast.net

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video
Recording
Devices
Position: Support
Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft and are a powerful tool when used properly. The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laura O'Connor

Letter1.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Suzanne & Kirk McAlexander
3340 Holland Cliffs Rd
Huntingtown, MD 20639
stmcalexander@comcast.net

February 15, 2022

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries. Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly. The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,
Suzanne & Kirk McAlexander

Letter1.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Suzanne & Kirk McAlexander
3340 Holland Cliffs Rd
Huntingtown, MD 20639
stmcalexander@comcast.net

February 15, 2022

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries. Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly. The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,
Suzanne & Kirk McAlexander

LetterA.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Caitrin & John Huntzinger
17604 Tree Lawn Dr
Ashton, MD 20861
caitkm@gmail.com

February 15, 2022

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video
Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries. Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly. The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,
Caitrin & John Huntzinger

LetterA.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Caitrin & John Huntzinger
17604 Tree Lawn Dr
Ashton, MD 20861
caitkm@gmail.com

February 15, 2022

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video
Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries. Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly. The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,
Caitrin & John Huntzinger

Liz.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Elizabeth Glass
108 Kuethe Drive
Annapolis, MD 21403
liz1719@icloud.com

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video
Recording
Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly.

The camers can only be accessed when an incident is reported.
Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.
Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Glass

Liz.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Elizabeth Glass
108 Kuethe Drive
Annapolis, MD 21403
liz1719@icloud.com

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video
Recording
Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly.

The camers can only be accessed when an incident is reported.
Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.
Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Glass

MD House Bill 226-Maureen Thompson letter.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Maureen Thompson
313 Chartwell Dr
Silver Spring, MD 20904
Mmstutho@gmail.com

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools, including cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly.

The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms in Maryland to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Thompson

MD House Bill 226-Maureen Thompson letter.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Maureen Thompson
313 Chartwell Dr
Silver Spring, MD 20904
Mmstutho@gmail.com

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools, including cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly.

The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self-contained classrooms in Maryland to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Thompson

Megan.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly.

The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,
Megan Anderson

Megan.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries.

Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations.

Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly.

The cameras can only be accessed when an incident is reported.

Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,
Megan Anderson

sarah.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Sarah W. Ward
2690 Cassia Dr, Edgewater, MD 21037
Whitward514@gmail.com

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of
Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries. Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations. Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly. The camers can only be accessed when an incident is reported. Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah W. Ward

sarah.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Reinhart

Position: FAV

Sarah W. Ward
2690 Cassia Dr, Edgewater, MD 21037
Whitward514@gmail.com

House Bill 226 Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of
Video Recording Devices

Position: Support

Ways and Means Committee 2/3/22

I am writing you to support this bill to allow cameras in self contained classrooms and give a voice to the students who are not able to come home and discuss events from their days or explain their injuries. Many organizations in Maryland such as MESA, HCAS, the Arc MD, disability advocates and civil rights attorneys have weighed in on the 2022 language and we believe this bill will protect vulnerable students as well as teachers and staff who work in the classrooms and experience suspensions from false allegations. Cameras are already in the schools. Cameras are in cafeterias, hallways, stairwells, front office, vestibules, gymnasiums, and exteriors. We know cameras are used in these spaces as a deterrent to harm or theft, and are a powerful tool when used properly. The camers can only be accessed when an incident is reported. Please support HB226 to allow cameras in self contained classrooms in MD to ensure protections for our most vulnerable students and staff.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah W. Ward

SB0577-EHE_MACo_OPP.pdf

Uploaded by: Brianna January

Position: UNF



Senate Bill 577

Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

MACo Position: **OPPOSE**

To: Education, Health, and Environmental
Affairs Committee

Date: February 16, 2022

From: Brianna January

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **OPPOSES** SB 577. While well-intentioned, this bill would place a costly mandate on school systems and county governments to carry out new state policy and install video recording devices in every self-contained special education classroom in every public school.

SB 577 would impose a costly, burdensome mandate —without accompanying State support — for school systems and county governments to install and maintain video recording devices in any self-contained classroom in which the majority of students are special education students. Under state law, counties would have no choice but to endure these costs for county boards of education. These costs would compete for limited local funds against school construction, public safety, roadway maintenance, and other essential public services. As counties undergo broad-based re-thinking of education priorities under the Kirwan Blueprint legislation, SB 577 would introduce a substantial new mandated cost fully outside the resources provided for in the Blueprint.

Ultimately, SB 577 is costly on multiple fronts. The Fiscal Note prepared by the Department of Fiscal Services for the 2021 version of the bill (SB 665) recognized direct costs, citing figures into the millions of dollars for each of the larger school systems. Another less clear, but still significant, concern is ongoing administrative costs to maintain the resulting footage and fully comply under Maryland's Public Information Act, especially since this video footage will contain images of minors. Additionally, there is a cost associated with training staff and faculty in the purpose and use of these cameras, and proper redaction of footage prior to release, which would be a time-intensive process.

This bill is a potentially significant unfunded mandate for Boards of Education. Counties support avenues to create safe environments for all students, but strongly oppose the broadly mandated provisions of SB 577. For these reasons, MACo **OPPOSES** SB 577 and urges an **UNFAVORABLE** report.

12 - SB 577 - X - EHEA - Audiology Board - LOC.pdf

Uploaded by: Heather Shek

Position: UNF



Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists & Music Therapists

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary

Carolyn Stine, Chair – Oluremi Dean, Executive Director
4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore MD 21215 Phone: 410-764-4725

February 16, 2022

The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky
Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: SB 577 - Public Schools – Self Contained Special Education Classroom- Use of Video Recording Devices – Letter of Concern

Dear Chair Pinsky and Committee Members:

The Board of Examiner for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists & Music Therapists (the Board) is submitting this letter of concern for Senate Bill (SB) 577– Public Schools – Self Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices.

The use of video recording devices in self-contained Special Education classrooms will have a direct impact on speech-language pathologists (SLPs) employed within the school setting. One of the Board’s concerns relates to how “abuse and neglect” is defined. Self-contained classrooms may include students who have a history of aggressive behaviors that require physical restraints to manage. Teachers, classroom staff members, and SLPs who are trained and authorized to perform physical restraints, when necessary, are not clearly protected. SB 577 does not outline how potential complaints against teachers or SLPs who use such restraints on a student will be evaluated for appropriateness and fidelity. SB 577 is also unclear on how it will be determined that an investigation involving a classroom staff member is warranted. Will decisions made by teachers, SLPs, or other classroom staff made in good conscience in a crisis situation be second guessed, criticized, or punished?

Another concern is that parents of students in school settings have the right to refuse permission to video record their child(ren) while in school. If a parent does not give permission for his/her child to be video recorded, the Board is unsure how this situation will be addressed.

The Board of Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, Speech-Language Pathologists and Music Therapists is concerned that SB 577 does not provide enough information on the investigative process, and as such, has the potential to pose more harm than good to both students and classroom staff members, including SLPs. Therefore, the Board respectfully asks that you consider this information and urge an unfavorable report on SB 577.

The opinion of the Board expressed in this letter of concern does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.

If you would like to discuss this further, please contact the Board's Executive Director, Ms. Oluremi Dean, MS at Oluremi.Dean@maryland.gov or 443-844-7172.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Oluremi Dean". The ink is a light gray color.

Oluremi Dean, MS
Executive Director
State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers,
Speech-Language Pathologists, and Music Therapists

The opinion of the Board expressed in this letter of concern does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.

SB 577.Video in Special Education Classrooms.pdf

Uploaded by: John Woolums

Position: UNF

BILL: Senate Bill 577
TITLE: Public Schools – Self–Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices
POSITION: OPPOSE
DATE: February 16, 2022
COMMITTEE: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
CONTACT: John R. Woolums, Esq.

The Maryland Association of Boards of Education (MABE) opposes Senate Bill 577 to mandate the installation of video cameras in all self-contained special education classrooms.

MABE opposes this legislation based on concerns about the universal scope of the mandate to include video cameras in all self-contained special education classrooms, the unfunded costs for installation and monitoring the cameras, the administrative costs of retaining, redacting, and responding to requests to view the video, and the privacy of the students recorded in the continuous classroom surveillance.

Reports of passing and implementing similar legislation in Texas, Georgia and West Virginia raise questions that MABE believes deserve more scrutiny before mandating a statewide mandate on cameras in special education classrooms. A key question is whether to enact a one-size-fits-all mandate for all of these classrooms, or tailor the availability of a camera to a parent or guardian's request regarding an individual student. Not only would the cost of any mandated camera installation program be significantly less if the program was limited to responding to requests, but responses to requests could be discussed in the context of the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) and thereby ensure the parent's or guardian's engagement in the decision-making process. Similarly, other states have provided the opportunity for a parent to opt out of their student being continuously monitored on camera.

Separately the impact of this legislation on school system responsibility to manage the video itself under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is daunting. Video recordings which become a part of a student's education record must be maintained in accordance with established education record procedures governing access, review and release of education records. However, FERPA does not specifically reference the type of video images of students and staff which are routinely recorded in the school and school bus setting in a manner not intended to enter an individual student's education record.

In this context, video images raise a complex set of questions regarding the school system's recording, maintaining, and disclosing of images which typically depict multiple students. For example, a parent may request a copy of a video containing images of their child and other children, e.g., video of a fight on a school bus. The school system must determine whether the video is an education record, whether it is an education record for each student depicted in the video, or is a student record but only for those students directly involved in the activity under scrutiny.

Lastly, the bill does not appear to encompass Maryland's publicly funded nonpublic special education schools, an omission that would limit the applicability of this bill's provisions to many self-contained special education classrooms.

For these reasons, MABE requests an unfavorable report on Senate Bill 577.

SB 577 - OPPOSE - St. Mary's County.pdf

Uploaded by: Randy Guy

Position: UNF

**COMMISSIONERS OF
ST. MARY'S COUNTY**



James R. Guy, President
Eric Colvin, Commissioner
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner
John E. O'Connor, Commissioner

Senate Bill 577
Public Schools - Self-Contained Special Education
Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

OPPOSE

February 8, 2022

Maryland Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee
Senator Paul G. Pinsky, *Chair*
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West
11 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Pinsky:

The Commissioners of St. Mary's County OPPOSE SB 577 Public Schools - Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices which will be heard in the Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee.

We OPPOSE SB 577 and request an unfavorable report. We do not believe this legislation would benefit the citizens of St. Mary's County. We look forward to working with you on this and other initiatives throughout the session.

Sincerely,
COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY


James Randy Guy, President

CSMC/AB/sf
T:/Consent/2022/043

Cc: Senator Jack Bailey
Delegate Matthew Morgan
Delegate Jerry Clark
Delegate Brian Crosby
Commissioner Eric Colvin
Commissioner Michael Hewitt
Commissioner Todd Morgan
Commissioner John O'Connor
Catherine Pratson, Co-County Administrator
David Weiskopf, Co-County Administrator

SB0577 Howard Co BOE Testimony 021622 for EHEA - S

Uploaded by: Staff Howard County

Position: UNF



**Board of Education of Howard County
Testimony Submitted to the Maryland Senate,
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
February 16, 2022**

**Board of Education
of Howard County**

Vicky Cutroneo, *Chair*

Antonia Watts, *Vice Chair*

Christina Delmont-Small

Yun Lu, Ph.D.

Jennifer Swickard Mallo

Jolene Mosley

Chao Wu, Ph.D.

Peter J. Banyas
Student Member

Michael J. Martirano, Ed.D.
*Superintendent
Secretary/Treasurer*

SB0577: UNFAVORABLE

**Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video
Recording Devices**

The Board of Education of Howard County (the Board) opposes **SB0577 Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices**.

In previous years this bill has been introduced, the sponsor panel has indicated the primary purpose of the bill is to give parents of special education students who cannot always report injuries, abuse, etc. an avenue to understand and resolve incidents in the classroom. The Board supports this intent. Not only could cameras provide a window for parents and guardians to feel at ease, but similarly where issues of mistrust fall on the school system cameras, may provide an avenue to defend allegations. In Howard County, delivery of special education services relies on quality programs and instruction, as well as trust and transparency to meet the unique needs of every student with a disability.

The move to place cameras in classrooms however, regardless of the type of classroom, is a potentially slippery slope that requires careful consideration at the local level with input from all stakeholders. The safety of every student is paramount to the Howard County Public School System. To date, cameras are used for security purposes in common areas such as hallways, cafeterias, and building exteriors as well as on school buses.

HB0226 as written has logistical and financial implications for local school systems. Initially, identification of locations where cameras are required could prove problematic, where regional program rooms and Academic Life Skills classrooms may be easily identified as those with regularly attending students receiving special education services, a percentage of time spent in these rooms to meet the 50% threshold will vary. If the focus is on monitoring the types of students in the definition under the bill – those classified primarily as certificate track and cannot rely on speech alone to be heard and understood – integration throughout the school is routine for special education students and thus cameras will not capture activities outside these rooms throughout the day. Rooms which may fit the definition found in the bill could also include spaces used by therapists and specialists, or by teachers during planning periods, which would be recorded at all times based on the requirements of the bill.

While costs for cameras and systems will vary based on the layout of each room as well as the current wiring/infrastructure of each building, staff estimates we can expect at a minimum \$2,600-\$3,000 per school for one camera to include wiring, installation, cameras and servers/storage equipment, plus \$1,500-\$2,000 per additional camera. Annual maintenance is estimated at \$23,000 plus replacement of obsolete technology over time. The volume of complaints that require review of video, including the need for schools to conceal the identity of others not involved in incidents, will have an impact on administrative time spent responding to inquiries about potential incidents captured on videos.

The sponsors of SB0577 have worked over the years to address the feedback on this bill, including the [positives and potential drawbacks brought forward by school system and disability communities](#), and their advocacy should be commended. However, for the above reasons, we urge a UNFAVORABLE report of SB0577 from this Committee.

Letter of Information from DRTx on Cameras in Clas

Uploaded by: Dustin Rynders

Position: INFO

February 15, 2022

Re: Letter of Information About Cameras in Special Education Classrooms (SB 577)

I am providing the following information about the experience of Texas in providing cameras in special education classrooms. I serve as the Supervising Attorney of the Education Team at Disability Rights Texas (DRTx), the Protection & Advocacy agency in Texas. I supervise a team of 20 advocates and attorneys throughout Texas who help families of children with disabilities navigate the special education system. Like my colleagues in other states, we are often contacted by parents who have concerns about injury at school that their child with a disability cannot explain or resulting from a major crisis situation that included a restraint.

DRTx was initially neutral on Texas legislation providing for cameras in special education classrooms, but quickly found cameras to be invaluable tools in making classrooms safe for vulnerable students.

In Texas, cameras in special education classroom legislation was passed after a group of grassroots parents with impacted children lead the charge. When this happened, Disability Rights Texas was neutral on the bill but provided resources. We recognized that cameras were already common in public school common areas, institutional settings serving people with disabilities and in law enforcement. We had concerns about potential impacts on student discipline, competing interests around privacy and parent access and what practically we would learn from camera footage.

While Texas only requires cameras in classrooms at parent request, reviewing camera footage has become a routine part of our work to investigate unknown injuries, but also to determine the appropriateness of restraint and crisis intervention when students are injured. There have been countless times when camera footage vindicated an educator or a student or created a learning opportunity on how to better handle crisis intervention in the future. Camera footage has been most helpful in determining what occurred during restraints that resulted in injury or other crisis situations resulting in injury. Cameras can also provide some parents more peace of mind in sending a child back to school after an injury. I would point out that cameras have been useful in special education behavioral classrooms where restraint is common, regardless of whether students use words to communicate. Even in classrooms where all students are verbal, serious crisis, injuries and varied accounts of major events occur that cameras can assist in investigating.

We have not seen any of the potential downsides of cameras that we feared. We have not seen cameras in special education classrooms result in greater exclusionary discipline. In fact, we have actually seen the opposite occur where expulsion was recommended before footage requested by parent but then footage vindicated our client and district withdrew requested expulsion or district attorney decided not to prosecute the student. We have also been able to file grievances on school police officers for misconduct caught on cameras when officers were responding in a classroom crisis. Schools have only granted parents access to cameras as outlined by state law. There are sometimes disagreements where parents would like access in situation school does not believe falls under our law, and Texas is looking at refining our process to resolve these disagreements.

The existence of the videos has greatly expanded what we can do with our P&A investigations in public schools, which we have used to conduct systemic investigations of programs and campuses of concern. Recently we finalized a investigate report on a program with findings based largely on camera footage, and the district immediately agreed to all of our requested actions, which we believe will protect all the students in this particular special education behavioral campus. In another investigation, we uncovered an entire school system with widespread practices of illegal and dangerous takedowns during restraint. We witnessed this conduct across campuses and years, and documented injuries to numerous students. The culture of aggressive restraint had become so engrained that until our intervention with experts, the district seemed completely unaware their practices were wholly inconsistent with the crisis intervention program they claimed to use. In several cases that were involved in those investigations, abuse uncovered on video resulted in findings of child abuse, prosecution and loss of educator certification.

Cameras do not resolve all questions even when they are installed and running. Occasionally an incident is outside of camera shot or video is unclear on what happened, school claims video was erroneously deleted or camera "off." Still, the benefits of cameras in the classroom have been indisputable in Texas. At this point the entire disability and advocacy community in Texas appears united in only wanting changes to expand cameras so not based on parent request and to fine tune process for parents to object if district does not provide access. The Texas Disability Community recently united to express the need to strengthen our protections of students based in large part on the troubling information cameras in classrooms have helped expose. For more on that, see [Increased Arrests of School Staff for Violent Restraint of Texas Students - Disability Rights Texas \(disabilityrightstx.org\)](https://disabilityrightstx.org/increased-arrests-of-school-staff-for-violent-restraint-of-texas-students).

Feel free to contact me at drynders@drtx.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

Dustin Rynders
Supervising Attorney

SB 577 - DD Council LOI - Public Schools – Self-Co

Uploaded by: Rachel London

Position: INFO



**Maryland Developmental
Disabilities Council**

CREATING CHANGE • IMPROVING LIVES

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

SB 577: Public Schools – Self-Contained Special Education Classroom – Use of Video Recording Devices

February 16, 2022

Letter of Information

The Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council (DD Council) envisions a state where people with and without disabilities live, learn, work, and play together. This includes children with disabilities learning alongside their peers without disabilities. Maryland educates more than 112,000 students with disabilities with a variety of services and supports - most in general education classrooms.

This bill would require a local school system to install at least one video recording device in every self-contained special education classroom in Maryland.

The Council is not taking a position on this bill, but would like to provide information on the potential impacts and realities. It is important to note that some families have expressed the desire for cameras to be installed in their child's classroom. Most of the concern comes from families of children, who because of age, trauma, or disability, cannot verbally communicate what has happened at school. Some families express that when their children come home with an unexplained injury, they have limited options to obtain additional information on the event that may have caused that injury, and that cameras afford them a tool to address it.

On the other hand, a number of important questions remain from the requirements outlined in SB 577.

- Are video recording devices a wise use of limited resources?
- Is anyone made safer in the presence of a camera?
- Will this lead to further segregation of students with developmental disabilities? Will less students with disabilities, especially those with the most significant disabilities, be educated alongside their peers without disabilities?

The Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates (or COPAA), an entity that seeks to protect and enforce the legal and civil rights of students with disabilities and their families, published an extensive review in March 2021 of the legislative idea to bring cameras into classrooms. This paper raises a number of important considerations. Here are a few:

- This policy decision is costly and would present the potential for disparate outcomes among school districts that are unable to effectively implement the camera system due to limited resources.
- Without constant surveillance of the footage, the installation of cameras could provide little more than a false sense of security.
- The placement of cameras in special education classrooms may violate the intention of providing the least restrictive environment for students.

There is limited data about requests for video footage, as well as the specific need to install cameras. Because the research into this issue is either minimal or shows that cameras have little to no impact, a limited pilot program of a demographically representative number of schools in the State could yield the information and data necessary to determine the need for statewide implementation.

Contact: Rachel London, Executive Director, RLondon@md-council.org