

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Darryl L. Williams ♦ Superintendent ♦ 6901 North Charles Street ♦ Towson, MD ♦ 21204

Division of Curriculum and Instruction
Dr. Mary McComas
Chief Academic Officer

Office: 443-809-2809

March 8, 2022

Ways and Means Committee
The Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary – Chairwoman
The Honorable Alonzo T. Washington – Vice Chair
131 House Office Building
Annapolis, Md. 21401

RE: Oppose HB 1256 Education – Discriminatory Concepts in Instruction – Prohibition (Ending Discrimination in Public Education Act of 2022)

Dear Chair, Atterbeary, Vice Chair Washington and Committee Members:

I am writing today in my role as Chief Academic Officer for Baltimore County Public Schools to express my opposition to HB 1256 Education – Discriminatory Concepts in Instruction.

We do not include any discriminatory concepts in any unit of instruction in the BCPS curriculum. We do, however, ensure that all curriculum is culturally responsive and uses asset-based knowledge of various racial/ethnic cultures, views, and experiences as part of our system commitment to ensure educational equity. We believe incorporating these diverse perspectives into teaching and learning experiences serves to strengthen and enrich the school system and the community at large.

Further, as outlined in Board Policy 6000, we ensure that all curricula align with federal and state academic standards and requirements, several of which require students to examine multiple perspectives and acknowledge the diversity and commonality of the human experience.

Therefore, we oppose HB 1256 – Education – Discriminatory Concepts in Instruction as it conflicts with system policies and state standards.

Sincerely,



Mary McComas, Ed. D
Chief Academic Officer