I removed my child from public school at the beginning of the pandemic and it is going amazing. He is really thriving in this environment! Our only drawback is his inability to participate in band. He's a talented musician and loves performing which simply is not offered in our small rural county outside of public schools. Given that we pay taxes, it simply does not feel equitable to take these funds while simultaneously denying our family access to these extracurricular activities. Homeschooling children are incredibly well behaved and would commit to the high standards required to a part of these activities, even more stringent requirements if necessary. Please allow this diverse community access to these programs. 20 other states already allow for such concessions and with Maryland being so progressive, this seems like a natural next step. Thank you for your time!

Best,

**Mariam Canning** 

Huntingtown, MD