

HARFORD COUNTY NAACP - BRANCH 7019-B P.O. Box 525, Aberdeen, MD 21001

March 29, 2022

The Honorable Paul Pinsky, Chairman
The Honorable Cheryl Kagan, Vice Chairman
Members of the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
The Honorable Venessa Atterberry
The Honorable Alonzo Washington
Members of the House Ways and Means Committee

RE: Requesting UNFAVORABLE REPORT: SB 908 and HB 603 – Harford County Board of Education Membership

Dear Chairman Pinsky and Atterberry; Vice-Chairman Kagan and Washington Members of the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee Members of the House Ways and Means Committee

Dear Chairman Pinsky and Atterberry; Vice-Chairman Kagan and Washington Members of the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee Members of the House Ways and Means Committee:

The Harford County NAACP is opposed to any changes in the current school board structure, including the way in which appointments are made. We are dismayed that our elected officials continue to push for changes that have, to our knowledge, not been asked for by the community at large—the people they have been elected to serve. Especially in this county, it is imperative that our school board reflect the full range of concerns and experiences of ALL of the people. A final proposal must ensure a diverse and inclusive Harford County Board of Education that represents the increasing diversity in the county the Board will serve. The current hybrid Board format which includes both governor-appointed and elected members has historically provided greater diversity among Board members, from both a racial and gender perspective.

Respectfully,

Vicki Jones

President, Harford County NAACP Branch 7019-B