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MAJORITY LEADER

Ways and Means Committee
Chair, Revenues Subcommittee



The Maryland House of Delegates
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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SPONSOR TESTIMONY

House Bill 797- County Boards of Education - Student Membership- Alterations

Madame Chair, Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

Recent events have highlighted the power of student advocacy. Around the country, we have witnessed students call for changes to both public and school policies to provide safe access to a quality education. As a former teacher myself, I have seen first hand the importance of these voices in providing an education for our students that truly meets their needs.

In order to ensure that students have a seat at the table when decisions are being made that impact their education, I'm proud to introduce House Bill 797. This legislation requires every school system in Maryland to have a student member on the Board of Education. And these members must have full voting rights with the ability to vote on all matters other than those directly related to discipline of school personnel.

House Bill 797 aims to actively uplift the voices of students in communities around the state. I have worked with a coalition of student members of boards of education in Maryland as well as other interested students to develop this legislation. Passage of this bill will ensure that they are heard as vital local decisions are made.

I thank the Committee for your consideration and respectfully request a favorable report on House Bill 797 to ensure that all student voices in Maryland are heard, supported, and uplifted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Luedtke".

Delegate Eric Luedtke