

Ways and Means Committee - HB1256 - UNFAVORABLE

Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Washington, and the Ways and Means Committee;

HB1256 sounds good, until you actually read it.

For one, it doesn't address discrimination against other protected groups, such as LGBTQ+ students, students with disabilities, and students of different religions.

Second, it rejects the reality of unconscious bias.

Third, it has the word "necessarily" in B. 5., as though moral character *could be* determined by an individual's race or sex, but isn't *necessarily*.

Fourth, it includes meritocracy, which is a seriously flawed concept due to the history of and continued presence of discrimination. Judging people based on meritocracy without taking those things into consideration would result in some people thinking that others are inferior based on their personal characteristics.

Fifth, I can't even understand what B.4. means...

I urge you to give HB1256 an Unfavorable Report.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,  
Debi Jasen  
Pasadena, MD