

Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

We are submitting a FAVORABLE testimony for HS 196 Public Schools and County Boards of Education – Publication of School Library Catalog.

One of the most popular buzz words from elected and school leaders is transparency.

This bill would require public school systems to be accountable for transparency with their library catalog. A silver lining of the pandemic and the experience of virtual learning is that parents had a window into our children's schools. Parents are more interested and energized to be actively involved in their children's education.

When schools partner with families and the community, it strengthens the educational experience for students.

This bill does not restrict what is in school libraries, it just allows parents to see what material is available.

Therefore, we fully support HB 196.

Thank you,

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"Protecting Children by Educating the Parents"