



LOYOLA UNIVERSITY MARYLAND

School of Education

— 1852 —

Testimony Concerning HB 1344

Education – Teacher Certification – Montessori Schools

Submitted to House Ways & Means Committee

Delegate Vanessa Atterbeary

On behalf of Loyola University Maryland's Center for Montessori Education I would like to fully support House Bill 1344/20. This Bill will improve the educational outcomes for children in Maryland by ensuring that highly trained Montessori Teachers have a pathway to teach in Maryland's Montessori Schools.

Loyola University Maryland has been involved in the preparation of Montessori teachers since 1991. It is fully aligned with the teacher preparation standards through the Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education (MACTE) mentioned in this Bill [C III]. For too long we have seen the best prepared Montessori teachers in the world flock to other jurisdictions, while non-Montessori teachers are hired to teach in public Montessori schools in Maryland. This bill will reverse that practice and ensure that children in Maryland's Montessori schools receive the best education possible.

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