Christine Hunt and Jay Crouthers 1014 Dockser Drive Crownsville, MD 21032

February 17, 2023

Maryland General Assembly Members of the Appropriations Committee Annapolis, MD

RE: HB0546-Education-Service Year Option Program-Establishment (Serving Every Region Through Vocational Exploration Act of 2023)

Dear Delegates,

We oppose HB 546 and respectfully request that you vote against it.

We feel that this program is unnecessary and that there are plenty of employment opportunities available for qualified High School graduates.

Perhaps instead of a costly "program" a database of employment opportunities with private employers could be created and reflect a more varied field of jobs outside of just climate, education and health for those fresh out of school.

If this program does go forward, I request that there be an equal number of liberal and conservative staff members.

But we feel this bill seems unnecessary. Please vote against it.

Sincerely,

**Christine Hunt and Jay Crouthers**