

**Support Senate Bill 311: Nonpublic Educational Programs- Children with Disabilities- Cost of Teacher Salaries**

Offered on behalf of The Maryland Association of Nonpublic Education Facilities (MANSEF)

Dear Esteemed Representatives,

It is with an enthusiastic voice that I implore you to support Senate Bill 311 to align teacher salaries for our amazing teachers, staff and other support personnel who work at the Baltimore Lab School (BLS) and other similar nonpublic special education schools. The staff go above and beyond to support our children who have multi-layer complexities when it comes to their education. Personally, my son would be absolutely lost in his academic journey had he not been at BLS since first grade. To learn that his teachers make less than their public school counterparts was devastating. I owe my son's productive future to their tireless efforts. Without their continuity and dedication in his life, I don't know where we would be. Please support Bill 311 to close the pay gap and end the disparity in pay.

Regards,

*Michelle Medeiros*

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(Eternally grateful mother of a BLS student)