

Bill:	House Bill 185	Date:	March 22, 2023
Title:	Nonpublic Schools and Child Care Providers - Corporal Punishment - Prohibition	Committee:	Education, Energy, and Environment
Position:	Favorable	Contact:	Kim Buckheit kimberly.buckheit1@maryland.gov 443-902-0622

On behalf of the Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS), thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter of *support* to House Bill 185.

MCSS collaborates with local public, nonpublic and private institutions of learning to ensure that all students have a safe environment in which to learn. Student safety is both physical and mental of which corporal punishment is harmful to both. Evidence indicates that the use of corporal punishment makes a student less likely to engage in prosocial behaviors that make our schools safe. In fact, studies show the use of corporal punishment is likely to lead to increases in maladaptive behaviors of aggression making schools LESS safe for all students and staff.

MCSS acknowledges that learning positive approaches to achieve a healthy school climate and student behavior will involve professional training and major shifts in adults' mindset. MCSS stands ready to collaborate with our partners in providing resources and support to any nonpublic school in the use of appropriate and effective discipline approaches.

Thank you again for taking the time to consider the information shared above, and MCSS strongly requests that the committee give House Bill 185 a favorable report.