

Senator William C. Smith, Jr., Chair  
and Members of The Judicial Proceedings Committee  
Maryland State Senate  
Annapolis, MD

RE: SB0566- Family Law- Fundamental Parental Rights- FAVORABLE

Dear Chair Smith and Members of The Judicial Proceedings Committee,

Family is the foundation of a child's upbringing. Choices made regarding all aspects of a child's development, health and education should be made by the **parent** regarding their child's unique situation and characteristics... **not any form of the government or public school system...PERIOD!**

Failure to pass SB0566 will:

- Diminish the rights of parents by removing them from decisions made pertaining to their own children. Parents, being the primary caretakers of their own children, have the right to know what their child/children are exposed to at school and health care facilities, **and** approve or disapprove of such.
- Divide the family structure. When decisions are made at school, or health care facilities without parental knowledge and approval, this creates a divide among the family members. Recently, there have been instances where students were coached by school professionals regarding gender preference and encouraged to withhold this information from their parents!

I ask that you return a FAVORABLE report for SB0568.

Thank you for your time.

Sarah Price

Westernport, MD (Allegany County)