

HB 0666
SUPPORT
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Dear Chairman Clippinger and members of the House of Delegates,

I respectfully request a favorable report for HB 0666.

Who is the primary decision maker for children? Is it the parent or the state?

It should be self evident that parents hold the sacred and primordial right over the upbringing, education and medical and psychological care of their own children.

Yet, over the past several years, parents have seen their rights as the primary caregivers of their children usurped. We are seeing this especially in the policies and regulations being implemented in our public schools as well as laws proposed by this General Assembly.

Parental rights are fundamental to a healthy functioning society. Parental rights are Constitutionally protected and have been affirmed on numerous occasions by the United States Supreme Court. Parents rights are inalienable.

We have arrived at this point in time, where legislation is needed by the parents of the state of Maryland to affirm a parent's right to make reasonable decisions for their children, even and especially in the public school system. We have reached a critical impasse in our society where the parents of the state are asking the state to affirm and uphold their fundamental rights over their children's upbringing and education.

It has always been understood that schools play a supportive and complementary role in the process of raising children up to adulthood. Unfortunately, the time has arrived where we need the state to affirm a

parent's right to make reasonable decisions for their children who attend public schools.

This is not a partisan issue. Parents in this state come from many and diverse backgrounds. Yet, we all can agree that as the parent, we hold the primordial and sacred duty to act as the primary caregivers of our children.

Let this body affirm and protect the primacy of parental responsibility for instilling core values in their children by giving a **favorable report to HB 0666**.