

MICHELE GUYTON
Legislative District 42B
Baltimore County

Environment and Transportation
Committee



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 8, 2023

FAVORABLE

**HB1091 – Education - Screening Requirements for Students with Reading Difficulties –
Alterations**

Dear Madame Chair and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing to request your thoughtful consideration of HB 1091. This legislation expands on the work championed by this committee in 2019 with the passage of the Ready to Read Act. It makes alterations to the original legislation to ensure that our educational system does not miss an opportunity to assist older children who are transfers to Maryland or English Language Learners if they demonstrate reading difficulties. The 2019 bill put regulations into place that require schools to screen every child for dyslexia in public Kindergarten. It also requires schools to screen new students who transfer into the school during elementary school who have not previously been screened and who are experiencing reading difficulties. HB1091 expands screenings to older student transfers and to students who are not native English speakers and were unable to be screened in their native language in Kindergarten. These groups of students will only be screened after a determination that they are proficient in English and if they are exhibiting reading difficulties.

Thank you for a favorable report on HB1091 to ensure that all of our students have equitable access to necessary reading intervention strategies.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Delegate Michele Guyton".

Delegate Michele Guyton D42B