



Ella Ennis, Legislative Chairman  
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The Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary  
And Members of the Ways and Means Committee  
Maryland House of Delegates Annapolis, Maryland

RE: HB0576 – Primary and Secondary Education Policies on Bullying - UNFAVORABLE

Dear Chairman Atterbeary and Committee Members,

The Maryland Federation of Republican Women object to the provision of HB 0576 that prohibits disclosure to parents of bullying, harassment or intimidation of their child at school if the attack is motivated by the child's actual or perceived sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity unless the child agrees to the parents being notified.

The bill is addressing acts of intimidation, violence or potential violence to elementary, middle and high school students. The current mode of thinking of some schools that "students' privacy" trumps parental responsibility for the safety of their children is absurd and dangerous to children. Parents cannot help their children if vital information is deliberately and intentionally withheld from them. In particular, elementary and middle school children are very impressionable and lack life experience. They need the involvement of their parents in all aspects of their lives. No matter how well intended this legislation might be, it is harmful.

Please give HB0576 an UNFAVORABLE REPORT.

Sincerely,  
Ella Ennis  
Legislative Chairman  
Maryland Federation of Republican Women