Maryland Legislators,

As an educator, I fiercely support Bill HB469. With over fifteen years of special education and elementary education experience, I have seen the lack of efforts to provide all students with uniform school experiences. Currently, I'm witnessing families who are fighting for equity related to the deserved sixteen years of special education. Imagine these parents who have struggled and coped with numerous hardships for years. Now, picture these families as they battle the educational injustice against their child. Why would some students be guaranteed sixteen years of instruction and guidance while others are offered only fifteen years based on a birthday or school start date? This is simply unfair and destructive to those receiving less schooling than others. It's 2023, it's time for educational equal rights.

Vote to support Bill HB469, so ALL students receive the learning opportunities they deserve.

Jennifer H. Tarr Cockeysille, Md.