



## TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

### HB 1164 Public Schools – Expanded American History – Development of Content Standards and Implementation

**POSITION: Support**

**BY: Nancy Soreng, President**

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The League of Women Voters of Maryland (LWVMD) is a nonpartisan organization that works to influence public policy through education and advocacy. LWVMD supports programs and reforms that promote equal access to quality education and ensure all students have access to research-based programs. In addition, LWVMD is committed to [diversity, equity, and inclusion](#) in principle and in practice. HB1164 meets these priorities.

The League of Women Voters of Maryland (LWVMD) **supports HB 1164 Public Schools – Expanded American History – Development of Content Standards and Implementation**. This bill would expand the American History content and curricular standards in public schools to support a more diverse conversation based on different ethnic identities' lived experiences and research outcomes.

People have migrated from all over the world to America, including to the State of Maryland. A student's original cultural background should not be secondary when seeking interaction with other student cultures in the classroom. Student acculturation is most important because that allows students to learn from a historical perspective resulting in positive and productive learning experiences.

Administrators, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders in the State of Maryland should be accountable to ensure the changed academic curriculum is implemented and has positive outcomes for all multi-ethnic and Caucasian students during the academic year.

Including the contributions and histories of traditionally marginalized groups into the academic curricula is expected to become a continued contribution to American History.

We urge a favorable report on HB1164.