

**HB0365 School Construction - Local Cost-Share - Alterations**

February 6, 2024

Appropriations Committee

**SUPPORT**

Good afternoon Chair Barnes, Vice Chair Chang and members of the Appropriations Committee,

My name is Jaime Orndorff. I speak to you as a Parent of four Kent County Public School children and I am one that was raised thru these same schools.

Kent County is the smallest County in Maryland. There are three elementary schools (I have 2 at Galena Elementary School), one Middle School (I have a child there in 6<sup>th</sup> grade) and one High School (have a child there as well in 9<sup>th</sup> Grade).

I remember my years at Kent County Middle School (8<sup>th</sup> Grade year was 1989 to 1990). This school is old and it is very apparent of its age. I am so excited that change will be happening due to the condition of the building. We NEED something that would offer better equipped classrooms, updated technology, an inviting learning environment that is fresh to booster these minds of the children of today.

Without the Local Cost Share alterations proposed in this bill Kent County simply cannot afford to make a new middle school a reality. Our Youth's future is in your hands. Please, I sincerely hope that you will see our need and support this bill.

Thank you for your time.