



P.O. Box 5200
Salisbury, MD 21801

March 25, 2024

Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 Senate Office
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: House Bill 558

Dear Committee Members:

Just a few years ago, the Delmarva Parent Teacher Coalition (DPTC) was established by parents and teachers due to the many violations and abuses of eroding parental rights in the State of Maryland. Representing thousands of parents and teachers across the state, we have collectively discovered the systematic integrations and obstructive tactics that are designed to prevent parents from parenting, being involved in their child's education, making choices for their child's health, and what's best for their child's upbringing.

We have seen firsthand the state's infringing on parental rights. HB558 infringes on parent rights by forcing the teaching of certain topics, including gender identity and sexual orientation in the Comprehensive Health Education Framework without an opt-out provision. In addition, it also infringes on local control, which elected school boards must retain the right and responsibility to choose the curriculum content that best meets the needs of the students in their county. We oppose any actions such as this that attempt to violate the rights of parents and to legislate curriculum.

The DPTC opposes HB558 and urges an unfavorable committee report.

Thank you,

Darren Lombardo, Director
Delmarva Parent Teacher Coalition