



## **Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee**

### **Testimony in Support of SB 762**

**February 16, 2024**

To the Honorable Members of the Maryland Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee,

My name is Juliette Leeth, and I am currently a college student at the University of Maryland College Park. I am here to express my earnest support for Senate Bill 762, the Maryland Seal of Civic Excellence, through my personal testimony.

This bill is significant to me and my peers as it validates our efforts in civic engagement. It's not just an award; it's a recognition that young Marylanders' contributions to democracy are invaluable.

I've learned firsthand about Maryland's National Assembly after being awarded the opportunity to page for the Maryland Senate. While a senior in high school I spent two weeks in 2023 in Maryland's Senate and House sessions. I was exposed to the process of government as I watched our representatives enact, debate and discuss legislation. This experience highlighted the impact of active civic participation. The Seal of Civic Excellence motivates students like me to become informed and active participants in our democracy.

I urge the committee to support SB 762, reinforcing the message that the involvement of young people is crucial for our state's democratic health.

Thank you for considering my testimony and for the opportunity to express my views.

Sincerely,

Juliette Leeth  
Montgomery County, MD