

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

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. One example includes the surveying of children at school to discover their feelings, beliefs, and views, by gathering data to be used to undermine their upbringing through the culturally reprogramming of children and to weaponize against their parents. Other examples we have seen includes one-on-one psychological manipulation of children at school by questioning their sexual gender-identity, the conspiring and implementation of coerced COVID-19 injections at school, and conspiring with outside agencies and organizations to direct a child down a certain path (all absent of their parent's knowledge).

The parent(s) have legal custody of their child. They birthed their child, not the school or the state. Many school officials across the state have told us in writing that a parent surrenders their right when they enroll them in the public school system, and that a parent does not like it, they can withdraw their child (without school choice or a voucher for an alternative).

This mindset and treatment of parents and children is inhumane. This overreach of parental rights is causing great destruction across Maryland. We look around and we see the consequences in our communities as a result of failed legislation and policies that do not help citizens, but seek to destroy them. Regardless of political party, we all have children and have an obligation to be united with bipartisan support of protecting the fundamental rights of parents.

The DPTC supports HB0553.

Thank you,

Darren Lombardo, Director
Delmarva Parent Teacher Coalition

