

Witness: Tara and Matthew Thompson
Jurisdiction: Baltimore County
Bill: HB0553 - Family Law - Fundamental Parental Rights
Committee: Judiciary
Position: SUPPORT

Dear Committee,

We are writing in support of HB0553.

A Parental Bill of Rights affirms the fundamental principle that parents are the primary decision makers for their children. It recognizes that parents have the inherent right to direct the upbringing, education, and care of their children, **free from UNNECESSARY interference and/or Infringement** by the government or other entities. This is the basis of this bill.

We request you support this important initiative for the well-being of our Maryland families and the future of our state. All children and families need to be protected. Please be active in voting FAVORABLE.

Testimony over the past 3 years of this bill being introduced shows FAVORABLE as a majority of the vote by your constituents. The majority of parents in MD want this bill in Maryland to pass.

2020: HB1242

Unfavorable - 5

Favorable - **58**

2023 HB0666:

Unfavorable - 15

Favorable - **58**

2023 SB566:

Unfavorable - 17

Favorable - **55**

2023 HB 553

Unfavorable -

Favorable -

2024 SB

Unfavorable -

Favorable -

We humbly request your **FAVORABLE** vote on this bill for our family and our children.

Sincerely,

Tara and Matthew Thompson

Parents of 3 school-aged children in Maryland and lifetime residents of Baltimore County,
Maryland