

Danielle Hornberger
County Executive

Steven Overbay
Director of Administration

Office: 410.996.5202
Email: dhornberger@ccgov.org



Jackie Gregory
Council President

Robert Meffley
Vice President

Office: 410.996.5201
Email: council@ccgov.org

CECIL COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Cecil County Administration Building
200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Elkton, MD 21921

January 31, 2024

The Honorable Vanessa E. Atterbeary
House Ways and Means Committee
Room 131
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 0558 - Primary and Secondary Education - Comprehensive Health Education Framework -
Established
Letter of Opposition

Dear Chairwoman Atterbeary and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee:

The County Council and the County Executive of Cecil County unanimously oppose HB 0558 - Primary and Secondary Education - Comprehensive Health Education Framework – Established. The hearing on this legislation is scheduled on February 7, 2024.

It is our understanding that this legislation requires the State Department of Education, in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Health, to develop a comprehensive health education framework; requiring each county board of education to create an age-appropriate curriculum that is consistent with the comprehensive health education framework; requiring each county board to establish policies, guidelines, and procedures for a parent or guardian to opt out of certain topics for the parent's or guardian's student, subject to certain requirements; etc.

We strongly believe this subject matter is best left to families and our local community to decide what is best for our children. Cecil County strongly opposes this legislation.

The County Executive and County Council of Cecil County respectfully requests that the Ways and Means Committee send an unfavorable report on HB 0558.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hornberger".

Danielle Hornberger
County Executive

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jackie Gregory".

Jackie Gregory
President of County Council