



The Garden International LLC
11890 Old Baltimore Pike, Ste G
Beltsville, MD 20705
info@thegarden.farm
www.thegarden.farm
(301) 957-4258

House Bill 213
Education-Maryland STEM Program- Established
Ways and Means Committee
January 31, 2024

Position: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee:

The Garden International writes to support with an amendment House Bill 213 – Education-Maryland STEM Program-Established. The requested amendment would be to change STEM to STEAM. If enacted with the amendment, HB213 would include arts and creativity to help absorb lessons and impact healthy mental health benefits. STEAM recognizes the importance of creativity and the artistic expression in the learning process. It encourages the integration of arts to foster innovation and a holistic approach to problem solving. The inclusion of arts aims to bring a more well-rounded and creative perspective to STEM-related fields.

This bill establishes necessary measures for expanding the STEAM presence within communities and the educational system which will create a positive impact on the lives of Maryland parents and students. Both STEM and STEAM are designed to prepare students for careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, but STEAM also recognizes the value of creativity and artistic expression in fostering innovation. Additionally, STEAM emphasizes the application of knowledge to real-world situations. By integrating arts, students learn to apply scientific and mathematical principles in creative ways, mirroring the interdisciplinary nature of many professions.

This bill if enacted with the STEAM amendment will provide students with preparation for the future and enhance problem solving skills and global competitiveness. Incorporating artistic elements into STEM subjects will make the learning experience more engaging for students. Creative projects, design thinking, and hands-on activities can spark interest and enthusiasm, making learning more enjoyable.

Therefore, we respectfully request a favorable report with the aforementioned amendment on House Bill 213. Thank you.

For more information call or email:
Therese M. Hessler | 301-503-2576 | therese@ashlargr.com