

**Linda Sherry
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The Honorable Ben Barnes
The Honorable Mark S. Chang
Room 121
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 7, 2025

RE: Support for HB0736 School Construction – Local Cost-Share – Alterations

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the House Appropriations Committee,

I am writing to you today in support of House Bill 0736, School Construction - Local Cost-Share - Alterations. I am a Maryland taxpayer, property owner in Chestertown, MD (Kent County) and a resident of Queen Anne's County. My partner is a teacher at the Middle School and he is required to teach 7th graders in a classroom WITH NO WINDOWS! Can you imagine working in a place all day, with adolescents who get no fresh air nor can they see the greenery outside of the school. I find this unacceptable for employees and students.

This bill would make it possible for our community to build the new middle school that it desperately needs. It is already difficult to give students all they need at Kent County Schools because so many people who have money send their kids to private schools. In this way, only students of lower economic means or children of parents who believe strongly in our public school system remain enrolled at Kent County Public Schools. Give these young people the same advantages that private-school students have! There is only one middle school — Kent County Middle School — serving all the children of Kent County, and they deserve a school without plumbing issues, heating problems and without windows in many classrooms.

Sincerely,

Linda Sherry