

Education Advocacy Coalition

for Students with Disabilities

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
HOUSE BILL 53: Task Force on Education Funding and Student Population Growth
DATE: JANUARY 28, 2025
POSITION: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

The Education Advocacy Coalition for Students with Disabilities (EAC), a coalition of nearly 50 organizations and individuals concerned with education policy for students with disabilities in Maryland, provides this testimony in support of House Bill 53 with amendment. House Bill 53 would establish a task force on education funding and student population growth.

The EAC supports the establishment of such a task force to analyze challenges related to student enrollment counts and its effect on school funding and the connection between growing student populations and the provision of school funding, and to make recommendations to improve the provision of school funding. These challenges are particularly pertinent to funding for students with disabilities who receive special education services. Therefore, the EAC suggests that the membership of the task force be expanded to include at least one individual with expertise related to students with disabilities and special education. This perspective will be critical to the success of the task force and the development of recommendations that will improve funding for all student populations.

For these reasons, the EAC supports House Bill 53 with amendment.

To discuss or if you have questions, please contact Leslie Seid Margolis, Co-Chairperson, at lesliem@disabilityrightsmd.org or 410-370-5730.

Respectfully submitted,

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