



Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
SB0008 Education – Maryland Civic Excellence Program – Established
Bill Hearing Date January 29, 2025
Position: Support

January 24, 2025

Dear Honorable Committee Members,

My name is Virginia Nichol, and I am a resident of Baltimore County. I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 0008, which seeks to establish the **Maryland Seal of Civic Excellence program**.

As a student, I have seen firsthand the importance of civic education in shaping responsible, informed citizens. Unfortunately, civic engagement often takes a backseat in our educational system, and this bill offers a critical opportunity to change that.

The Maryland Seal of Civic Excellence will:

- Encourage students to engage more deeply with civic education and activities.
- Highlight the importance of staying informed on local, state, and national issues.
- Inspire schools to integrate more civic learning into their curricula.

I went to the 4th Annual Maryland Civic Education and Engagement Leadership Summit, it was the first time I ever really joined in on civics. It shined a light on a perspective I never really thought about before. I watched the news with my family, but I never really thought about the big picture of how issues outside of my county or Maryland could impact me until I went to the summit.

In conclusion, **SB0008** is an investment in the future of Maryland's democracy. By supporting this bill, the committee will help ensure that Maryland's students are empowered to actively contribute to their communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Virginia Nichol
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443-518-9618



House Ways & Means Committee

HB0072 Education – Maryland Civic Excellence Program – Established

Bill Hearing Date January 29, 2025

Position: Support

[Date]

Dear Honorable Committee Members,

My name is [Your Name], and I am a resident of [County]. I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 0072, which seeks to establish the **Maryland Seal of Civic Excellence program**.

As [a student/a teacher/a parent/an advocate], I have seen firsthand the importance of civic education in shaping responsible, informed citizens. Unfortunately, civic engagement often takes a backseat in our educational system, and this bill offers a critical opportunity to change that.

The Maryland Seal of Civic Excellence will:

- Encourage students to engage more deeply with civic education and activities.
- Highlight the importance of staying informed on local, state, and national issues.
- Inspire schools to integrate more civic learning into their curricula.

[Include a brief personal story or example that demonstrates the impact of civic engagement and how the program will benefit students and society.]

In conclusion, **HB0072** is an investment in the future of Maryland's democracy. By supporting this bill, the committee will help ensure that Maryland's students are empowered to actively contribute to their communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your Contact Information]