

FAVORABLE
Senate Joint Resolution 5
Elementary and Secondary Education – Curriculum – Importance of Diversity

Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment
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The Maryland State Education Association supports Senate Joint Resolution 5, which would acknowledge the importance of teaching a culturally diverse curriculum in Maryland schools, specifying that curricula taught in schools should include the history of communities that have experienced discrimination.

MSEA represents 75,000 educators and school employees who work in Maryland's public schools, teaching and preparing our almost 900,000 students so they can pursue their dreams. MSEA also represents 39 local affiliates in every county across the state of Maryland, and our parent affiliate is the 3-million-member National Education Association (NEA).

We know the history of both our state and our country is far more diverse than is reflected in the content often taught in public schools. We therefore urge support of this resolution affirming that all students deserve an education that accurately reflects the experiences, contributions, and history of communities that have experienced discrimination.

It is our hope that this resolution will prompt a holistic process of evaluating and updating State curriculum standards, and that this process will include the input of educators, families, and members of underrepresented communities.

MSEA unequivocally believes that our diversity makes us stronger, and we will continue working toward a future where all students have access to a rigorous history education.

We urge the committee to issue a Favorable Report on Senate Joint Resolution 5.