

**HB 702: County Boards of Education - Special Education Service Delivery Models - Publication Requirement**

Support

House Ways & Means Committee, February 25, 2025

Chair Atterbeary and members of the Ways & Means Committee:

My name is Danielle Bustos, and I am a person with a disability. I am providing testimony in support of House Bill 702, which would require each county board of education to publish on its website a certain list of special education service delivery models provided for parentally-placed private school students.

As the coordinator of the Maryland Youth Leadership Forum, I meet a lot of students and parents from secondary school. Almost all of these parents and students come from a public school and their school put in a great effort to offer as many services to their students with disabilities as possible. I see constant communication and I see the investment the schools are putting into the students. However, I don't see that happening in the private school setting. Mostly because private schools don't really interact with public services. I think a bill like this will open the door or establish a line of communication between parents and students with disabilities in a private school setting. At least the Maryland Youth Leadership Forum will know that those students were offered our services, and they know that we exist, and we are here for them if they should need us for any reason.

I urge a favorable vote for HB 702.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Danielle Bustos  
Montgomery County, Maryland