



Ella Ennis, Legislative Chairman
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The Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary, Chairman
and Members of the Ways & Means Committee
Maryland House of Delegates
Annapolis, Maryland

RE: **HB1211** - Education – Reporting Arrests of Students – Alterations – **FAVORABLE**

Dear Chairman Atterbeary and Committee Members,

The Maryland Federation of Republican Women urges your Favorable vote for HB1211. We must do all we can to keep our students, educators and support staff safe. We read frequently about attacks, including fatal attacks, in and around our schools involving criminal gang members who are students.

HB 1211 will increase safety for all through enhanced communication and coordination.

HB1211 will provide County Superintendents and school principals information to appropriately assign and monitor students who have been arrested for a reportable offense or an offense related to the student's membership in a criminal organization. These are not minor infractions.

If we want to steer students in trouble to a better path in life, we need to be factual about their actions with those who guide them and who will play a critical role in their rehabilitation.

Keeping students, educators, and support staff safe will require the highest level of coordination among law enforcement authorities, States' Attorneys, the Juvenile Services Education Program, the State Board of Education, and local Boards of Education and their schools.

Please vote a **FAVORABLE** report for **HB1211**.

Sincerely,
Ella Ennis
Legislative Chairman