



Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

SB0008 Education – Maryland Civic Excellence Program – Established

Bill Hearing Date March 19, 2025

Position: Support

Dear Honorable Committee Members,

March 17, 2025

My name is Anisa Kalil 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 and 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.

Engaging with civic learning both inside and outside of the classroom has been the gateway to being involved and leading in my community. For example, as Captain of the Speech team at my school, I have helped fellow students achieve their goals in not only speaking on issues important to them, but also to advocate for the issues they often are not heard on. In my case, last year, I crafted and delivered a speech on the importance of voting and what it means to be an active participant in one's community. By doing so, and by being given the opportunity to share this speech among my peers, I gained more experience with not only discussing these important issues, but truly acting upon them and spreading the word about advocacy projects similar to this one. This bill will not only recognize more civic activities during and after the school day, but in doing so, it will reinforce the infrastructure required to provide students with these cherished experiences.

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,

Anisa Kalil
anisazkalil@gmail.com



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]