

**House Ways & Means Committee  
HB0072 Education – Maryland Civic Excellence Program – Established  
Bill Hearing Date January 29, 2025  
Position: Support**

January 27, 2025

Dear Honorable Committee Members,

My name is Marna Brown-Krausz, and I am a resident of Howard 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 retired attorney and, for a time years ago when I lived in New Jersey, Counsel to the New Jersey Law Revision Commission, a quasi-legislative agency that works to revise the New Jersey Statutes, 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.

In my estimation, 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 strongly believe that **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,

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