

**House Bill 493**  
**Ways and Means Committee**  
**Favorable**

Honorable Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and Members of the Ways and Means Committee;

One Pasadena is an anti-bigotry group that works to change the hearts and minds of people in order to make Pasadena a safe and inclusive community. We, the Steering Committee of One Pasadena, believe that education has the power to change hearts and minds. Erasing history, no matter how uncomfortable that history is, won't make this country great. We need to acknowledge and understand how this country came to be what it is today if we are to have any chance to improve things for everyone in it. The experiences of Ruby Bridges are powerful and eye-opening. Everyone should be fully taught about the Civil Rights Movement, and Ruby Bridges' story is a good opening to that - especially for young students.

Please give House Bill 493 a favorable report, and continue to ensure that our youth are learning the facts of history. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
The One Pasadena Steering Committee  
Pasadena, MD