

## **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS**

### **House Bill 1323**

### **Education - Public Schools - Asian American History Curriculum Requirement**

### **House Ways and Means Committee**

**March 5, 2025**

**Lauren Lamb**

**Government Relations**

The Maryland State Education Association supports House Bill 1323 as amended, which would require the Department to review and publicize resources related to Asian American history for teacher professional development. It would also establish a grant program to assist with professional development course expenses.

MSEA represents 75,000 educators and school employees who work in Maryland's public schools, teaching and preparing our almost 900,000 students so they can pursue their dreams. MSEA also represents 39 local affiliates in every county across the state of Maryland, and our parent affiliate is the 3-million-member National Education Association (NEA).

Students deserve history education that is inclusive, accurate, and complete, and MSEA wholeheartedly agrees with the importance of ensuring that educators are empowered to teach Asian American history thoroughly and effectively. It is essential that students receive a comprehensive multicultural education that cultivates respect and appreciation for the contributions of Asian Americans throughout history, which have been too often omitted from school curricula.

MSEA advocates for a comprehensive, holistic effort to ensure that social studies curricular resources are up-to-date, rigorous, and reflective of the

experiences, contributions, and history of communities as diverse as Maryland's student population. It is essential that students' education include Asian American history, and that educators have access to high-quality resources to aid in that effort. We appreciate the sponsor's efforts to make such resources available.

**We urge that the committee issue a favorable report on House Bill 1323 as amended by the sponsor.**