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FAVORABLE

House Bill 1316 Primary and Secondary Education – Student Technology and Student **Resource Guide**

House Ways and Means Committee March 5, 2025

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The Maryland State Education Association supports House Bill 1316, which would require the National Center for School Mental Health at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, in consultation with the State Department of Education, to develop and publish a student technology and social media resource quide.

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).

It is widely recognized that many students are struggling with the mental health consequences of social media use. It would be to the benefits of students, families, and educators to have access to research-backed guidance on the risks of social media use, best practices for the safe and healthy use of technology. We strongly support providing resources to students and educators on this timely issue.

We urge that the committee issue a favorable report on House Bill 1316.