



## **HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE**

**FEBRUARY 25, 2025**

### **HOUSE BILL 702**

#### **COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION - SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICE DELIVERY MODELS - PUBLICATION REQUIREMENT**

#### **SUPPORT**

Agudath Israel of Maryland, the Mid-Atlantic regional office for Agudath Israel of America – a renowned national Jewish advocacy organization with chapters across the country, speaks on behalf of the Orthodox Jewish communities across Maryland. Among our many operations is Yahalom Maryland, the needs and disability division of Agudath Israel of Maryland; Yahalom Maryland serves as the point of contact for individuals, families, and local organizations within the Orthodox Jewish community who seek assistance in navigating issues related to physical, intellectual, and developmental disabilities. We issue this testimony in support of House Bill 702.

HB 702 would require each county board of education to publish on its website a list of special education service delivery models provided for parentally-placed private school students; and define “parentally-placed private school student” as a child with a disability enrolled by the parent or guardian of the child in a private elementary or secondary school or facility, including a religious school or facility.

This bill helps ensure that all parents of students with special needs are aware of the special education services available to them; currently, there may be many parents who are unaware of services that can help their child. This bill would help increase accessibility to services and meet federal guidelines at no cost to local school systems. We therefore respectfully ask that you issue a favorable report on House Bill 702. Thank you.