I strongly support **HB1180 (Right to Learn Act)** for the following reasons:

1. Expands Educational Opportunities for Students in Failing Schools

- Gives students in **low-performing schools** the chance to transfer to **better educational environments**.

- Ensures that students are not trapped in a failing system with **limited pathways for success**.

2. Increases Accountability for Failing Schools

- Requires schools to maintain their **failing designation** until they show measurable improvement.

- Encourages schools to **address academic deficiencies** rather than ignoring performance issues.

3. Empowers Parents with More School Choices

- Requires school districts to **notify parents** when their child's school is failing, allowing them to make informed decisions.

- Ensures that **low-income families** have the same ability to seek better education as wealthier families who can afford private schooling.

4. Establishes the Broadening Options and Opportunities for Students Today (BOOST) Program

- Provides funding to help students transfer to **alternative schools, including charter or private schools**.

- Helps bridge the gap for students who would otherwise be unable to afford **higher-quality education options**.

5. Encourages Competition and School Improvement

- Schools that risk losing students to alternative options may be incentivized to **improve performance and curriculum**.

- Promotes higher educational standards by holding schools **accountable for student outcomes**.

6. Reduces the Achievement Gap

- Helps students from historically underperforming districts access **better resources, teachers, and learning environments**.

- Can lead to **higher graduation rates and better long-term success** for students who would otherwise be stuck in underperforming schools.

7. Prioritizes Student Success Over Bureaucratic Systems

- Shifts the focus from protecting **failing institutions** to **ensuring student achievement**.

- Recognizes that students should not have to wait for years of slow reform before they get a **quality education now**.

Please vote **Favorable** toward HB 1180!

Nancy Shih

Howard County