

Maureen Wambui

7827 Rolling View Ave

Nottingham, MD, 21236

Maureen.w.m.2030@gmail.com

02/27/2025

The Honorable Members of the House Committee

Maryland General Assembly

Annapolis, MD 21401

**Testimony in Support of HB1383 - Maryland House Bill 1383 – Enhancing the Online Special Education System**  
**Hearing Date: March 3, 2025**

**Chairperson and Esteemed Members of the Committee,**

My name is Maureen Wambui, and I am a proud Immigrant and resident of Legislative District 8 in Maryland. I am writing today to express my strong support for HB1383, a crucial bill that seeks to enhance the state's online special education system by ensuring it is secure, user-friendly, and capable of real-time monitoring of student progress.

It is unfortunate that many parents have experienced firsthand the challenges of navigating the Maryland Online Individualized Education Program (IEP) system. While the current platform serves an important function, it lacks essential features that would make it more accessible and efficient. Many parents, struggle with limited transparency, outdated system functions, and difficulty in tracking our children's progress in real time. These issues create unnecessary stress for families already managing the complexities of raising children with special needs.

HB1383 would mandate the State Board of Education to set clear functional and technical standards for the system, ensuring that it remains adaptable to future educational needs while complying with privacy regulations. Such improvements would not only make it easier for parents to stay informed but also help educators collaborate more effectively, leading to better outcomes for students.

Furthermore, requiring the Maryland State Department of Education to study and report on these improvements ensures that the necessary changes are made based on research and the real needs of students, parents, and educators. A modern, efficient, and accessible online special education system is essential for ensuring all children receive the support they deserve.

For these reasons, I urge this committee to support HB1383. Our children's education is too important to be limited by outdated and inefficient technology.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Maureen Wambui