

DONNA CULBERSON
1616 Doctor Jack Rd
Conowingo, MD 21918

Date: 01/21/2025

Subject: HB0147

As a concerned citizen, a grandparent of a Cecil County Public School student and as a County Council member for Cecil County, I am asking for a FAVORABLE position on HB0147. Test scores across this State are documenting horrific facts that our children and grandchildren are not proficient in math and reading.

While I know parents are concerned about not being able to reach their child in an emergency situation or the child not being able to call a parent should a school emergency arise, it is my belief the electronic devices (phones, ipads, etc.) are contributing to the lack of proficiency in basic skills. The parents could call the schools, if necessary, and I am positive the schools have policies and procedures in place for notification to parents should any issues arise with the school as a whole or a specific child.

I also believe the distractions caused by inappropriate use of electronic devices during classroom instruction are also contributing to the increased behavior issues. It removes the child's ability to focus on instructions and their distractions also have the potential to interfere with other students' learning ability and focus on instruction.

For these reasons, I request a FAVORABLE position on HB0147.

Donna Culberson