

Tatiana Smith Alexander
6503 Woodley Rd
Clinton MD, 20735
miss.tatianasmith@gmail.com
240-423-3876
March 3, 2025

Members of the Ways and Means Committee
House Office Building, Room 130
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: Support for HB 1185 – The Right to Play for Homeschool Students

Dear Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for **HB 1185**, which seeks to allow homeschooled students to participate in public school extracurricular activities, including sports. As a tax-paying resident of **Prince George's County, Maryland**, I believe that homeschooled children should have access to afterschool activities that are funded by the state at their local public schools. These activities are valuable learning experiences that help students develop teamwork, discipline, and social connections, and they should be **accessible to all children—regardless of their educational setting**.

Currently, homeschool families must **pay out of pocket** for sports and extracurricular activities, which can be financially burdensome. Meanwhile, public schools receive taxpayer funding that supports these same programs, but homeschoolers—who are also members of the community—are not permitted to participate. HB 1185 would **help alleviate financial strain on families** while fostering **greater local connections, advocacy, and shared resources** for all children.

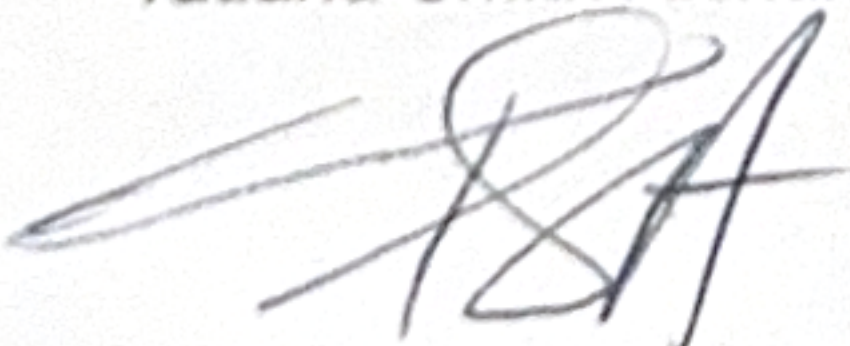
Additionally, extracurricular activities should be **publicly accessible**, meaning that families should be able to view **which activities are available, when they are in session, and how to participate**. Transparency in scheduling and access would ensure that families are aware of opportunities for their children and allow more students to benefit from state-funded programs.

I urge you to support this bill so that all students—regardless of their educational path—can access extracurricular activities that enrich their learning and strengthen our communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tatiana Smith Alexander

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'TSA' or similar initials, written over a horizontal line.