



**Testimony in Support of HB1430  
Maryland Public Charter School Program – School Facilities – Funding  
House Appropriations Committee  
March 11, 2026**

Dear Members of the Appropriations Committee,

I am writing today to express my support for **HB1430**.

As a founding member and current President of the Board of Directors for Sabillasville Environmental School, I can speak firsthand about how meaningful the proposed \$1,600 per student in facilities funding would be for our school.

Currently, we spend roughly 19 percent of our annual Per Pupil Allocation (PPA) on maintaining our nearly 70-year-old building. We expect these costs to increase as we face major repairs to our roof, blacktop, and HVAC systems in the near future.

Each time our Board of Directors must decide whether to repair or upgrade our facilities, we are faced with difficult choices. It often means deciding between repairing the roof or purchasing classroom materials, or between repaving a parking lot filled with potholes and hiring an additional teacher.

While this bill would not cover all of our facilities expenses, it would be an important step toward more equitable funding for public charter schools. Traditional public schools receive dedicated facilities funding, and measures like HB1430 help ensure that charter schools have the resources needed to provide safe and effective learning environments for students.

I respectfully ask you to support HB1430 so that we can continue working toward a bright and sustainable future for the students who attend Sabillasville Environmental School.

Sincerely,  
Alisha Yocum  
President, Board of Directors  
Sabillasville Environmental School