

Good afternoon, Chair and members of the committee.

My name is Dr. Richard A. Cross, an educator and mentor with over 13 years of experience working with students who have been historically underserved.

SB0126 matters because it recognizes a truth many educators see daily: students struggling in math are often not lacking intelligence; they are lacking confidence, connection, and belief in themselves.

This Summer Academy is powerful because it integrates academic instruction with mentorship and service, addressing both skill and mindset. Summer is the most strategic time to intervene, preventing learning loss while rebuilding student engagement.

As an Education Practitioner, I always seek to support programs that are delivered with integrity, accountability, and measurable outcomes, and with a forward-thinking lens that Maryland can scale statewide.

This pilot represents more than remediation; it represents restoration of confidence, purpose, and academic direction. I strongly support SB0126 and appreciate your consideration.

Dr. Richard A Cross

Founder: Going Beyond Limitations

Expert in Mentorship | Executive Advisor | Dedicated Educator | Consultant | Author and Empowerment Speaker

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POSITIVELY SHAPING THE FUTURE