

SB0535_RichardKaplowitz_FAV

03/04/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz

Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON SB#0535- POSITION: FAVORABLE

County Boards of Library Trustees - Membership - Student Member

TO: Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#0535, **County Boards of Library Trustees - Membership - Student Member**

This bill is submitted to provide a path for the voice of the youth in a community to be heard on matters affecting the libraries in a jurisdiction. It will empower a board to decide to provide for the selection of a student member of the board... A student member shall be selected by a process established by the board. The student member of the board shall:

- be a junior or senior year student enrolled in a public or nonpublic high school in the county that the library serves
- who is of good character and is in good standing in the student's high school
- be selected in the student's sophomore or junior year by a method established by the board
- have an interest in library matters
- serve a term of 1 year.

A... student member of a board may vote on all policy matters before the board. A board may adopt a policy or bylaw to authorize a student member to vote on additional nonpolicy matters before the board.

This bill will authorize a county board of library trustees to provide for the selection of a student member of the board; and establishing the qualifications, setting a 1-year term of office, and providing for the voting rights of the student member of a county board of library trustees, if selected.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB#0535.