

**SB0070 – Adult Education-High School Diploma Pathways-
GED Option Pilot Program and MDiplomaWorks Pathway
EEE Committee
Favorable With Possible Adjustments**

Dear Honorable Brian Feldman, Chair, Honorable Cheryl Kagan, Vice Chair and committee members:

I support SB0070 to establish the GED Option Pilot Program and request that this pilot be expanded to include students with disabilities who exit secondary school with the Maryland High School Certificate of Program Completion within a certain frame so that students with disabilities could be afforded similar opportunities as their non-disabled peers. As a former community college administrator, I have witnessed the need for an alternative pathway that provides diploma opportunities for non-diploma students, including students with disabilities, who were unable to earn the traditional high school diploma or pass the GED test. This pathway will open postsecondary and career readiness pathways leading to enhanced employment for the adult learner and supporting Maryland's economic well-being.

Thank you for supporting the innovative MDiplomaWorks Pathway pilot.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Plantz
Community Advocate

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