

FAVORABLE
Senate Bill 346
Civil Actions – Violation of Constitutional Rights (No Kings Act)

House Judiciary Committee
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The Maryland State Education Association supports Senate Bill 346, which would establish certain civil liability for an individual who, under color of law, deprives another of a right, a privilege, or an immunity secured by the U.S. Constitution.

MSEA represents 76,000 educators and school employees who work in Maryland's public schools, teaching and preparing our almost 900,000 students so they can pursue their dreams. MSEA also represents 44 local affiliates in every county across the state of Maryland, and our parent affiliate is the 3-million-member National Education Association (NEA).

In this moment more than ever, we must underscore our commitment to safeguarding democratic governance, accountability, and human rights. This bill offers a meaningful tool to resist authoritarian practices, including the expansion of unchecked law enforcement powers, the erosion of due process and civil liberties. As Maryland communities face escalations in dangerous immigration enforcement practices and the targeting of individuals based on identity, status, or political expression, we as educators have a moral and professional responsibility to stand up for the safety and civil rights of our students and communities.

We urge the committee to issue a favorable report on Senate Bill 346.