

March 9, 2026

Dear Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

I am writing in support of **House Bill 1288**. This bill would insure that school board members would be accountable to the community and less likely to be beholden to the elected official who appointed them.

In Harford County, it has become increasingly apparent that board members are biased and appear to have a political agenda. The most recent appointees do not appear to have any educational background and appear to be aligned with extremist segments of our society in terms of their ideology. They appear to be compromised and unable to critically review data, listen to feedback from students, educators, union representatives, and other community members. Sadly, their appointments appear to have been made to carry out the wishes of the current executive for Harford County.

I am urging you to support this important legislation to ensure that decision making for our students will be made by individuals who are competent, qualified, and demonstrate being invested in ensuring that all of the students in Harford County have access to a quality education that will lead to them becoming productive adults.

Thanks in advance for your consideration with this important matter.

Sincerely,

Louis Barnett

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