

Subject: Opposition to HB 1582 – Education – Program of Educational Accountability – Alterations (COMPASS Act)

Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Gina Gibson, and I am a parent and resident of Harford, Maryland. I respectfully oppose **HB 1582**.

Maryland's school accountability system should provide families with clear information about whether students are achieving strong academic outcomes. HB 1582 raises concerns because it would reduce the emphasis placed on academic proficiency when evaluating school performance and increase the weight of non-academic indicators.

While measures such as school climate and engagement can be valuable, **academic achievement must remain the central measure of school success**. If proficiency carries less weight in accountability ratings, it becomes harder for parents and policymakers to identify schools where students are struggling academically.

At a time when many students are still working to recover learning losses, Maryland should strengthen academic accountability rather than weaken it.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to give **HB 1582 an unfavorable report**.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Gina Gibson
Harford County, Maryland