

**HB 1011:** Workgroup on Supporting Transgender and Gender Diverse Students -  
Established: Please vote to **OPPOSE** this bill.

Dear Ways & Means Committee:

I am writing to strongly urge you to **OPPOSE HB 1011**.

While student well-being is important, this workgroup is an unnecessary and divisive initiative that will impose controversial gender ideology on Maryland students and families at the expense of core educational priorities, parental rights, and student safety.

**Establishing this workgroup diverts resources from addressing real challenges like learning loss, teacher shortages, and academic achievement—issues still lingering from recent disruptions.** This workgroup would create confusion and unfairness for **all** students. Parents, not the state, should have primary authority over their children's education and well-being, without top-down mandates that erode local control or parental involvement.

**The proposed Workgroup is unnecessary and redundant because** Maryland public schools are already required under existing state and federal law—including **the Maryland Safe Schools Act, COMAR regulations on bullying, harassment, and intimidation, Title IX,** and the state's nondiscrimination policies—to **protect all students from discrimination, harassment, and bullying based on sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, and other protected characteristics. Local school systems have established anti-bullying policies, reporting procedures, staff training requirements, and disciplinary measures that address these issues comprehensively.** Creating a new statewide workgroup to recommend additional policies will simply duplicate efforts, divert limited resources from core academic priorities, and impose ideologically driven mandates that could undermine parental rights, local control, and the **focus on evidence-based student support already in place.**

Maryland schools should focus on inclusive, evidence-based support for all students without promoting ideologically driven agendas. **This bill sets a troubling precedent for state overreach into personal and family matters better handled at the local level or through existing anti-bullying and nondiscrimination laws.**

For these reasons, I respectfully ask you to **vote against HB 1011.**

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of my concerns regarding this important education-related legislation.

Sincerely,

Trudy Tibbals