

HB1582_RichardKaplowitz_FAV

03/12/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz

Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON HB#1582- POSITION: FAVORABLE

Education - Program of Educational Accountability - Alterations (Comprehensive Outcomes and Measures of Progress for Supporting Schools (COMPASS Act))

TO: Chair Wilkins, Vice Chair Feldmark, and members of the Ways and Means Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#1582, Education - Program of Educational Accountability - Alterations (Comprehensive Outcomes and Measures of Progress for Supporting Schools (COMPASS Act))

National standardized testing may not be the only measure for evaluating educational accountability. An educational accountability program shall include at least three school quality indicators that measure the comparative opportunities provided to students or the level of student success in public schools. One of the school quality indicators ...shall be school climate surveys.

Other school quality indicators may include:

- school staffing measures, including access to teachers who hold an advanced professional certificate or have obtained national board certification
- completion of well-rounded curriculum measures that are indicative of on-track progress at key transition points within elementary and secondary education.

When establishing or calculating the state accountability system, indicators established by the state board may not incorporate, reference, or rely on any teacher evaluation.

This bill will accomplish this redefinition of measuring progress in our school systems by altering the school quality indicators authorized for an educational accountability program in public schools; and prohibiting the use of certain indicators in an educational accountability system.

These are common sense additions to our quality measurements as well as ensuring our teachers are not evaluated by this methodology that may skew the results of quality measurements. A different method will be used in assessing our teachers.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB#1582.