

The Honorable Chair
Delegate Jheanelle K. Wilkins
House Ways and Means Committee
131 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: FAVORABLE - SUPPORT of House Bill 1202
Public Schools – Content Standards, Curriculum, and Bullying Policies – Culture and
History of Palestine**

To the Chair Wilkins, Vice Chair Feldmark, and esteemed members of the Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Michael Lent, I am a resident of Parkville District 08. I am writing to name my support for HB 1220 the “Public Schools – Content Standards, Curriculum, and Bullying Policies – Culture and History of Palestine” bill. This bill requires Maryland public schools to incorporate age-appropriate, fact-based Palestine cultural literacy into existing social studies, world history, civics, or multicultural education curricula beginning in the 2027-2028 school year. By teaching about Palestine’s history, we can help combat harmful stereotypes and encourage a safer environment for a diverse student body.

Bill HB 1220 strengthens Maryland's commitment to equal dignity and educational equity by ensuring anti-Palestinian bias is addressed consistently with other forms of discrimination already recognized in schools.

I ask the Ways and Means Committee to give HB 1220 a favorable report.

Thank you for your time,
Michael Lent
Parkville, MD 21234