

Date: Monday, March 2, 2026

**SUPPORT for HB 1043 – Homeschool Students in Maryland – Right to Play**

Dear Delegate **Smith**,

As a resident of District **2**, I am writing to express my strong support for **House Bill 1043**, which would authorize public high schools to allow homeschool students to participate in interscholastic athletics. This bill ensures that students receiving home instruction under COMAR requirements have the same opportunity to engage in school-sponsored sports as their enrolled peers.

HB 1043 is a fair and practical proposal that prioritizes the needs of local schools while expanding access for homeschooling families. It explicitly requires that enrolled students receive placement priority if roster spaces are limited. Additionally, it mandates that homeschool participants adhere to the same health, immunization, and conduct standards as any other student, ensuring a safe and consistent environment for all athletes. The bill also addresses administrative concerns by providing clear guidelines on liability insurance and transportation responsibilities.

Participation in sports fosters essential life skills like teamwork and perseverance. By supporting this legislation, you are helping to ensure that a student's "Right to Play" is protected regardless of their educational path. I respectfully request your **support for the bill** as it moves through the **Ways and Means Committee**.

Sincerely,



Lesley AR Daniel