

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

UNFAVORABLE of Senate Bill 554
Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners - Appointment Process and Compensation - Alterations

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, MD in District 08. I am writing to name my opposition for SB 554 the "Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners - Appointment Process and Compensation - Alterations" bill. This bill removes the Community Panel from the Baltimore City School Board Mayoral appointment process and requires Senate confirmation for all appointed school board members.

Did not Baltimore City just fight to get back its control of the Baltimore City Police Department from the State of Maryland. It is insulting that the legislature is looking for new ways to constrain our only independent city in Maryland. This bill harms transparency, community input and removes directly impacted groups from the decision making process.

For these reasons and many more, **I ask the Ways and Means Committee to give SB 554 an unfavorable report.**

Thank you for your time,
Michael Lent
Parkville, MD 21234
District 08