

HB 627: Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in Education - Establishment:
Please advocate **TO OPPOSE** this bill.

Dear Ways & Means Committee:

I am writing to respectfully **oppose HB 627**, concerning the establishment of a *Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in Education*.

History and civics education are vitally important to preparing informed, responsible citizens. However, creating an additional state-level commission raises concerns about unnecessary bureaucracy, added costs, and potential politicization of curriculum decisions that are already handled by existing education authorities.

Maryland already has a State Board of Education, local school boards, curriculum specialists, and professional educators who are responsible for developing and implementing academic standards. Establishing another commission risks duplicating responsibilities, creating conflicting guidance, and diverting resources away from classrooms and direct student support.

There is also legitimate concern that a commission focused on history and civics could become a venue for ongoing political disputes over curriculum content. Schools should prioritize balanced, academically rigorous instruction grounded in scholarly standards—not shifting directives influenced by political pressure.

If improvements to history and civics education are needed, those efforts should be pursued through transparent, academically driven processes within existing structures, rather than through the creation of an additional layer of oversight.

Maryland students deserve high-quality instruction rooted in facts, critical thinking, and intellectual diversity—without unnecessary administrative expansion.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to **oppose HB 627**.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Respectfully,

Trudy Tibbals