

HB459  
State Board of Education and State Superintendent of Schools - Enforcement Procedures -  
Alterations  
February 11, 2026  
Oppose

Dear Delegate Wilkins and the House Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Jenny Nance and I live in Baltimore City, in District 43A. I oppose this bill as it would allow too much leeway to local boards of education. The abuse of discretion standard is too low when we are considering policies and regulations that will affect the education of thousands of vulnerable students. Currently, the State Board of Education can enforce education law, and they should continue to do so. We must have higher standards for the education of our young people than asking “did this school board have literally no reason to enact this regulation?” Many policies that harm young students could be excused by a “guiding rule or principle,” but that doesn’t make the principle correct or one that we should use to educate children. Specifically, I am concerned that this bill as written gives too much latitude to school boards that might make decisions that would harm vulnerable trans students and students of color from learning about their own history, seeing representation of people like them, or learning about all of our history in this country.

I respectfully urge this committee to return an unfavorable report on HB459.