

**March 6, 2026**

**Re: Testimony In Support of HB1202 Public Schools – Content Standards, Curriculum, and Bullying Policies – Culture and History of Palestine**

**Position: FAVORABLE**

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am writing today as a founding member of Anne Arundel for Palestine, and in firm support of HB1202. Our organization understands the deep need for cultural awareness, and an expanded educational umbrella that covers Palestine - particularly as it relates to education, erasure, and social impact.

The bill strengthens and expands our state's commitment to fostering safe learning and a more equitable educational experience for all by ensuring anti-Palestinian bias is addressed consistently with other forms of hate and bias.

A multi-culturally minded Maryland is a better Maryland. For these reasons, we respectfully urge a favorable report.

Mary Ella Jourdak  
Anne Arundel for Palestine  
Annapolis, Maryland