



**Committee:** House Ways and Means Committee

**Bill Number:** House Bill 486 – Public Schools – Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day and Maryland School Pedestrian Awareness Day - Establishment

**Hearing Date:** February 11, 2026

**Position:** Support

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The Maryland Assembly on School-Based Health Care (MASBHC) supports *House Bill 486- Public Schools – Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day and Maryland School Pedestrian Awareness Day – Establishment*. The bill establishes the Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day and the Maryland School Pedestrian Awareness Day. MASBHC appreciates the bill sponsor highlighting the importance of Ruby Bridges as the first Black student to integrate a white elementary school in Louisiana. Ruby Bridges is part of an important legacy, that includes Maryland’s own Thurgood Marshall, in civil rights history. The sponsor also lifts up the importance of pedestrian safety for students which is a critical component of Maryland’s Vision Zero initiative.<sup>i</sup> As an association representing ninety school-based health centers in Maryland, student pedestrian safety is a priority for us.

We ask for a favorable report on this legislation. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net) or (443) 926-3443.

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<sup>i</sup> <https://zerodeathsmd.gov/>