

I am writing in support of HB1242. I am a parent myself and I believe it my right and the right of every parent to direct the upbringing, education, care, and welfare of their children. Recently, I have seen proposed legislation in Maryland and in other states that attacks these rights which is why we need legislation like HB 1242 that specifically protects them.

Parents have a more vested interest in their children's welfare and upbringing than the state does, know their children better than the state does, and are therefore best equipped to make important decisions regarding their children.

The state provides remedies for rare cases in which children are living in circumstances of abuse and neglect. There is no context in which it's necessary or appropriate for the state legislature to pass laws which undermine or usurp the authority of all parents, the vast majority of whom provide much better care and decision-making for their children than the state is capable of providing.

I hope that you will support this bill and protect the rights of myself and other parents.

Sincerely,
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