

Testimony to Support HB1242

Chris Denney

Dear Sir and Madam Delegates:

I am writing to urge you to support HB1242 to protect parents' fundamental right for the welfare and major decision making for their children. Parents have a fundamental right to directly care for their children and to make decisions for educational, caregiving and safety protections for their children. In 1979 the Supreme Court ruled that children and adolescents are unable to make sound judgements for many decisions, and that parents can and must make those judgements, including their medical care needs. There have been various bills that have submitted during this legislative session attempting to undermine these fundamental parental rights.

Parents are the most invested and able to care for their children. The state has laws in place to protect children for relatively very rare instances of child abuse and neglect, and programs to help parents when able to gain the support they need to rectify those issues and resume their natural right to care for their children. There's no reason to undermine the parental rights of All Maryland parents who provide much better care than the state could provide and without the cost to taxpayers.

Thank you for your service and hearing this testimony. Please report favorably on HB1242

Sincerely,

Chris Denney
12506 Stratford Garden Dr.
Silver Spring, MD 20904
cdenneyc@gmail.com
917-678-1428