

Delegate Luke Clippinger,

I am voicing my support for HB1242 as introduced by Delegate Dan Cox.

My reasoning:

Due to recent attacks on parental rights in this session of the Maryland Legislature, it has become necessary to strengthen what most parents would consider common sense protection of their God-given right to direct the upbringing, education, care, and welfare of their children.

Not only do parents have the highest vested interest in their children's welfare, they are ultimately responsible for their children's actions and decisions, not the state. Quite simply, parents are the first responders should anything bad happen to the family as a result of their children's decisions.

Absent cases where children are living in circumstances of abuse or 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 will ever be capable of providing.

So I am asking that HB1242 not be withdrawn or tabled but instead be given every opportunity for passage out of committee.

Thank you so much for the work you do and the responsibility you bear as Chair of the Judiciary Committee.

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