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Ways and Means Committee

Education Subcommittee

Finance Resources Subcommittee



The Maryland House of Delegates  
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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**Support HB 401 – Public Schools-Pregnant and Parenting Students- Policies and Reports**

Dear Madame Chair and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

Thank you for your consideration of HB 401 requiring the State Department of Education to establish a model policy to improve the educational outcomes of our 2000 Maryland students who are pregnant or parenting each year. This policy must include adequate provisions for lactating students including a private space and excusal from class for lactation related needs. In addition schools shall assist and advise the student in acquiring appropriate transportation and child care services if the lack of those services impedes the student's ability to attend school. Currently 60% of pregnant and parenting students leave school before they graduate and over 60% of the families that they form live below the poverty line. Given the well-documented advantages to earning at least a High School Diploma in the job market, I hope that this committee will give HB 401 a favorable report in order to increase the odds that parenting students achieve this academic goal and can better provide for themselves and their children.

Sincerely,

Delegate Michele Guyton