



*The Maryland House of Delegates*  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 10, 2022

**HOUSE BILL 1291- Public Schools – Student Immunization Requirements – Authority**

Madam Chair Pendergrass, Vice Chair Pena-Melnyk, and members of the HGO committee,

I come before you today to present House Bill 1291 and ask for you to give it a favorable report.

HB 1291 seeks to require any proposed additional vaccinations to come to the legislature for final approval. Adding vaccinations to the required schedule is a very important decision and the citizens of the state of Maryland deserve to have a say in the process and so do their representatives.

The issue of transparency in public health policy has come under fire. We have had many bills put in over the years to add or remove vaccinations from the required list in our public schools. This body has had the great opportunity to hear those bills and consider all sides of the issue and has made excellent decisions in this regard. However, there still remains the option for the Maryland Department of Health to circumvent the people and promulgate their own regulations in this regard and this is wrong.

Maryland citizens deserve and desire the ability to communicate directly with us on these important topics.