

SAMPLE LETTER -- TO URGE UPHOLDING GOVERNOR'S VETO OF HB 1300 – Blueprint for Maryland's Future. (Implementing Kirwan Educational Reform) -- Call or e-mail legislators this coming week.

Dear Senator/Delegate,

Please UPHOLD Governor Hogan's Veto of HB 1300 of the 2020 Legislative Session – "Blueprint for Maryland's Future" resulting from the Kirwan Commission.

HB1300 is excessively complex, expands government control of families and children, increases state bureaucracy, and is too expensive. While the "world class" goals are laudable, we must first concentrate on all students achieving grade-level competency. We urge, over the next two years to require all Maryland public schools to:

(1) ensure every student can read (words and comprehension), write and do math at grade level. Add science competence at appropriate grade level next.

(2) require disruptive-behavior students-those who frequently act out and cause their classroom to be evacuated to be placed in "alternative classes" until they can conform their behavior. They should not be allowed to repeatedly reduce learning opportunities for all other students in the class or endanger students or teachers.

(3) concentrate on getting students to attend class, every day. Attending class regularly will improve learning.

Maryland currently spends approximately \$16,000 per student. That is \$320,000 per 20 student class. It's not just how much money is spent, but how much is actually going into the classroom and teachers' salaries vs on contracts, administration, etc.

Instead of HB 1300, please go step-by-step – bring student achievement up to grade level. Involve the community, parents and teachers. Provide competition through vouchers. Competition works and costs less.

Sincerely,