



February 10, 2012

The Honorable Thomas M. Middleton  
Finance Committee  
3 East, Miller Senate Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1912

Re: SB 329 Education – Parent-Teacher Meetings – Unpaid Leave– **Oppose**

Dear Senator Middleton:

Although the intent of this bill is admirable, it raises many of the same challenges as the bill presented last session. The provisions of SB 329 force employers to implement yet another category of leave for a specific segment of their employee population, along with the necessity to track that leave; and creates an inherently discriminatory practice in favor of employees with school-aged children over those without school-aged children. Many businesses allow employees to use whatever accrued paid leave time they receive for any personal business, or employees are allowed to take leave without pay. However, attempting to legislate such benefits for all businesses is unrealistic and removes the necessary flexibility employers need in managing their workforce and their business.

These are not “one size fits all” issues, and “one size fits all” solutions are not practical or workable. The Legislative Committee of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce therefore asks that your committee give this bill a negative report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael McMullin'.

Michael McMullin  
President  
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Senator Joseph M. Getty  
Delegate Susan W. Krebs