

EQUITY FOR MARYLAND'S SCHOOL CHILDREN



KIRWAN (Blueprint for Maryland's Future): Support with Amendments - SB 1000/HB 1300

Article VIII, Maryland State Constitution:

“The General Assembly...shall by law establish throughout the State a thorough and efficient System of Free Public Schools; and shall provide by taxation, or otherwise, for their maintenance.”

The Time is Now to Center Race and Wealth Equity in Maryland Education

The ACLU of Maryland works to ensure that all public school children in Maryland have an equitable opportunity to attend healthy and safe schools that provide a high-quality education.

Equity and Adequacy in Education Funding

The Kirwan Commission has recommended millions in additional funding to schools across the state. The state must invest in the education of Black and Brown children whose school districts have been historically underfunded. State funding must prioritize these communities.

#FOCUSTHEFORMULA

This session, we will also oppose discrimination in private schools that receive public funding; ensure that school facilities are conducive to learning; and advocate for a positive school climate, including fair discipline policies.

Statewide Construction Needs

The General Assembly has committed to dedicating the first bill of the legislative session to school construction funding. The school districts that have the oldest buildings and in the worst conditions, must be the first priority when funding is distributed. Again, these districts disproportionately serve Black and Brown children.

Restorative Approaches and Data Transparency

We will continue to fight for restorative approaches in the classroom. We will also advocate for school discipline data that is transparent and effective in ending the school-to-prison pipeline.

Ending Taxpayer Funded Discrimination

The ACLU of Maryland will continue to oppose the use of taxpayer dollars to fund private schools that can and do discriminate against already vulnerable groups.

ADEQUACY

Every student and district receives the level of resources they need to meet state standards.

EQUITY

Counties support their schools according to what they can afford, based on local wealth, and the state makes up the difference.