

PLEASE POST ON THE WEBSITES ASAP

The hearing for Senate Bill 256, the PE Facilities Bill, will be held on Tuesday, February 16th, at 1:15 PM, in the Senate Budget and Taxation Hearing Room.

We need:

People to testify at the hearing. Please bring 35 copies of your testimony with you.

People to write letters to the Chair, Vice Chair and Members starting immediately. They may be mailed or faxed.

Synopsis of SB 256: Requiring the State Department of Education to adopt regulations that require public schools that are newly constructed or completely renovated and occupied on or after January 1, 2013, to include a gymnasium and adequate support space for physical education instruction and to adopt guidelines for facilities for physical education programs.

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Address: Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland, 21401
Suite 3, West Wing

Phone and Fax Numbers:
(410) 841-3690, (301) 858-3690 (phone)
(410) 841-3091, (301) 858-3091 (fax)

Committee Composition:
Ulysses Currie, Chair

Edward J. Kasemeyer, Vice-Chair (

David R. Brinkley
James E. DeGrange, Sr.
George C. Edwards
Verna L. Jones
Nancy J. King
Rona E. Kramer
Richard S. Madaleno, Jr.
Nathaniel J. McFadden
Donald F. Munson
Douglas J. J. Peters
James N. Robey
J. Lowell Stoltzfus
Robert A. (Bobby) Zirkin

Format/sample for letter and testimony:

To: Ulysses Curry, Chair

Edward J. Kasemeyer, Vice Chair

Members, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

From: Beverly Jones

Re: Support for SB 256 -Public Schools-Physical Education Facilities

First indicate that you strongly support this bill

I enthusiastically supports SB 256 which, when enacted and implemented, would ultimately result in there being adequate and appropriate space for quality physical education instruction in all schools newly designed or renovated after January 1, 20113. There are currently 191 elementary schools in the state that do not have gyms.

Then note what passage of this bill would accomplish

Passage of this legislation would contribute towards reducing childhood overweight and obesity, significant risk factors for heart disease, diabetes, certain cancers, orthopedic disorders, psychosocial problems and many other health threats. It will also help reduce the financial burden on the state of treating obesity related illnesses.

Finally, and most important of all, specify why this bill is important to you and your loved ones. Use a personal example if possible.

This issue is important to me personally because-----

The finale: tell them what you want them to do

I urge you to vote in favor of SB 256.

If you need additional information, feel free to contact me.

Please let me know if you plan to testify. We will make sure that you are listed on the sign-up sheet on the day of the hearing.

I would LOVE to have a copy of any letters that you send.

Best regards, M

Michaeline R. Fedder, MA
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Heart Disease and Stroke. You're the Cure

All children in grades K-5 should be receiving 150 minutes a week of Physical Education to improve their health, to prevent/reduce childhood obesity and to increase their cognitive skills.