

25/26-GA-09

Spontaneous

Resolution

Regulatory Amendment Title: COMAR 13A.05.04 - Programs for Library Media Services - Students on the Library Board

Amendment Authors: State Superintendent Dr. Carey Wright, State Student Member of the Board O'Marie Barnes

Enabling Legislation: HB 785 (2024) - Freedom to Read Act

Legislation Sponsor: Delegate Dana Jones (D30-A)

FOR including a student member on each local school system's school library media program. This student will vote on reviewing and evaluating objections to media in the libraries.

Proposed Position: SUPPORT

Co-Authors: *Foresight Ogungbe, Vanessa Li, Will Andrione*

WHEREAS, The Maryland State Department of Education is updating COMAR 13A.05.04 to expand definitions regarding library media services and modernize the role of library media programs; and

WHEREAS, the proposed changes ensure that students receive comprehensive instruction in digital and media literacies, which are critical for navigating the modern information landscape; and

WHEREAS, strengthening the responsibilities of school library media specialists ensures that students have consistent, professional guidance in developing 21st-century research and critical thinking skills; and

WHEREAS, MASC supports “[e]nsuring that students have full access to educational literature and media in accordance with constitutionally protected expressive and intellectual liberties.” (MASC Platform, Plank III, FF); and

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WHEREAS, exposure to diverse perspectives and the ability to evaluate information are essential components of a student's preparation for college and career readiness; therefore, be it hereby

RESOLVED that the Maryland Association of Student Councils supports COMAR 13A.05.04 - Programs for Library Media Services - Students on the Library Board