TO: Members of the Maryland State Board of Education and MSDE Leadership

Dear Members of the Maryland State Board of Education and Leadership of the Maryland State Department of Education,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed revisions to **COMAR 13A.04.18** and the **Comprehensive Health Education Standards and Frameworks**, including the inclusion of **Bleeding Control / Stop the Bleed education** as a required component of the Health I curriculum in Maryland schools.

Uncontrolled bleeding is a leading cause of preventable death from injury. Teaching students how to recognize life-threatening bleeding and take immediate action empowers them with practical, real-world skills that can save lives in schools, homes, and public spaces. Early bystander intervention is critical, and education is the foundation of that response.

Including Stop the Bleed education in the Health I curriculum ensures that all students—regardless of where they live—have equitable access to this life-saving knowledge. It also aligns with public health priorities, injury prevention strategies, and emergency preparedness efforts across the state.

I commend the Maryland State Board of Education for its unanimous approval of the draft regulation on November 4, 2025, and I encourage MSDE to finalize the proposed revisions as written. This is an important opportunity to strengthen student safety, improve community resilience, and prevent avoidable loss of life.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment and for your continued commitment to the health and safety of Maryland's students and communities.