



Peter Franchot
Comptroller

TESTIMONY OF COMPTROLLER PETER FRANCHOT

Support – Senate Bill 506 - Children - Therapeutic Child Care Program - Funding

Budget and Taxation Committee

March 2, 2022

Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe and members of the Committee, it is my pleasure to provide testimony in **support** of **Senate Bill 506 - Children - Therapeutic Child Care Program - Funding**. I would like to thank Senator King for sponsoring this important legislation, and the Committee for providing the opportunity for my testimony to be heard.

Therapeutic childcare is a critical service that many families rely upon when they have nowhere else to turn. The instruction and care within these programs provide early intervention for youth with developmental delays and have an overwhelming success rate of transitioning students to a typical kindergarten classroom.

Senate Bill 506 creates the Therapeutic Child Care Program with a mission of providing specialized care to children under six who have developmental delays or physical disabilities. While the benefits of such a program are undeniable, funding has been inconsistent. Senate Bill 506 outlines the State investment necessary to ensure all children facing these challenges have the resources they need.

For the reasons stated above, and the future of our children, I respectfully request a **favorable report** for Senate Bill 506. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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