The MdCSWC, sponsored by the Greater Washington Society for Clinical Social Work, represents the interests of more than 9,500 licensed clinical social workers in Maryland.

TO: The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chair

Members, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

The Honorable Nancy J. King

FROM: Judith Gallant, LCSW-C, Chair, Maryland Clinical Social Work Coalition

DATE: March 2, 2022

RE: SUPPORT – Senate Bill 506 – Children – Therapeutic Child Care Program –

Funding

The Maryland Clinical Social Work Coalition (MdCSWC), sponsored by the Greater Washington Society for Clinical Social Work, represents the interests of more than 9,500 licensed clinical social workers in Maryland. On behalf of MdCSWC, we **support** Senate Bill 506.

Senate Bill 506 would create a Therapeutic Child Care Program and mandate an appropriation in the Governor's annual budget to fund the Program. Therapeutic Child Care Programs provide specialized childcare and early childhood education by educators, early intervention providers, mental health providers, and health care providers to children under the age of 6 years who have developmental delays; physical disabilities; or delays in social, emotional, or behavioral functioning. Without early intervention, these children may be at risk for school failure. MdCSWC strongly supports early detection and intervention with an interdisciplinary team of professionals. We urge a favorable report.

For more information call:

Christine K. Krone Pamela Metz Kasemeyer Danna L. Kauffman 410-244-7000