

March 10, 2022, 1 p.m. Ways & Means Committee

HB1276- Baltimore City Youth Data Hub Establishment—Favorable

Dear Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Washington, and Members of the Ways & Means Committee,

The Maryland Out of School Time Network (MOST) is a statewide organization dedicated to closing opportunity gaps by expanding both the quantity and quality of afterschool and summer learning opportunities for school-aged young people. MOST is one of the fifty statewide networks supported by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and serves as Maryland's affiliate to the National Afterschool Association.

MOST has served as a partner to Baltimore's Promise on the Baltimore City Youth Opportunities Landscape and has supported efforts to systemically collect data to identify gaps in services to children and families. The Baltimore City Youth Data Hub will help drive equity and shape future public and private investments to foster positive change and community development.

HB1276 - Baltimore City Youth Data Hub Establishment provides clear protection for data privacy while removing potential administrative barriers to sustainability of collecting and managing a city-wide data system. The Executive Committee with representation from the Mayor's Office among other key stakeholders builds city leadership commitment and the advisory board to the Executive Committee offers opportunity for broader community engagement and oversight.

We look forward to opportunities to utilize the Baltimore City Youth Data Hub in the future and urge the committee to provide HB 1276 with a favorable report.

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