

MOTA Maryland Occupational Therapy Association

PO Box 36401, Towson, Maryland 21286 ♦ mota-members.com

Committee: Senate Budget and Taxation

Bill Number: Senate Bill 419

Title: Therapeutic Child Care Grant Program – Funding -Alteration

Hearing Date: January 31, 2024

Position: Support

The Maryland Occupational Therapy Association (MOTA) supports Senate Bill 419 – *Therapeutic Child Care Grant Program – Funding Alterations*. The bill makes the annual funding level of \$3.7 million into a permanent requirement. Under current statute, the Governor is only required to fund the program through fiscal 2025.

Occupational therapy practitioners are committed to early interventions for young children whose daily functioning is affected by developmental delays, physical disabilities, or behavioral health challenges. The Therapeutic Child Care Program supports partnerships between child care centers and health programs to provide effective early interventions for children. These partnerships are critical to supporting families seeking to ensure their children can integrate into educational, family, and social settings.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.