



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

February 27, 2024

Committee: Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment

Bill: SB 886 – State and Local Parks - Playgrounds - Safety Standards (Our Kids Play Safe Playground Safety Act of 2024)

Position: Support with Amendment

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League supports Senate Bill 886, with one suggested technical amendment. Understanding and appreciating that the bill's goal is increased playground safety, our members feel the inspections performed in section (B) should be performed by a certified playground inspector. The Maryland Recreation and Parks Association and National Recreation and Parks Association offer a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) certification program several times a year. This certification ensures that the inspector brings the most comprehensive and up-to-date training on playground safety issues including hazard identification, equipment specifications, surfacing requirements and risk management methods to the inspection.

This could be accomplished with the following change to Section (B), page 2, lines 13-15:

(B) AT LEAST ONCE EVERY 2 YEARS, EACH UNIT OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR A PLAYGROUND SHALL INSPECT THE PLAYGROUND TO EVALUATE COMPLIANCE WITH SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, FOLLOWING CERTIFIED PLAYGROUND SAFETY INSPECTOR STANDARDS PURSUANT TO THE NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARKS ASSOCIATION.

With this change, the Maryland Municipal League would respectfully request a favorable committee report for Senate Bill 886.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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