

SB0482– Governor's Office for Children - Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households (ENOUGH) Grant Program (ENOUGH Act of 2024)

FAV

Paul Monteiro (Secretary)
Department of Service and Civic Innovation
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The Department of Service and Civic Innovation supports a favorable report on SB0482– Governor's Office for Children - Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households (ENOUGH) Grant Program (ENOUGH Act of 2024) and the establishment of the Governor's Office for Children.

Senate Bill 0482's ENOUGH Grant Program aligns with the work of the Department of Service and Civic Innovation as it seeks to connect residents to quality jobs and in-demand occupations to target child poverty as one of its aims. As our programs work to provide Marylanders with opportunities to serve their communities while earning a living wage, the ENOUGH Grant Program provides support for strategies to improve outcomes within communities by empowering communities in need with grant support.

The bill, as drafted, provides an opportunity to align investments that could help the ENOUGH Act achieve its goals. As our programs expand and grow each year, the ENOUGH Grant Program may position communities who receive an ENOUGH Act award to concurrently work with DSCI to create new sites for service in communities by Maryland Corps/Service Year Option Members. We are confident ENOUGH Act award recipients, who have the capacity, could manage DSCI resources to advance complementary community solutions through service and civic engagement.

Additionally, as our Secretary is part of the Children's Cabinet, we are in alignment with the Governor's vision for the Office for Children as the home for the ENOUGH Grant Program.

DSCI respectfully requests that you consider this written testimony of support as you deliberate SB0482– Governor's Office for Children - Engaging Neighborhoods, Organizations, Unions, Governments, and Households (ENOUGH) Grant Program (ENOUGH Act of 2024) and the establishment of the Governor's Office for Children.