



**Caring For Maryland's Most
Important Natural Resource™**

Maryland State Child Care Association

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The Maryland State Child Care Association (MSCCA) is a non-profit, statewide, professional association incorporated in 1984 to promote the growth and development of child care and learning centers in Maryland. MSCCA has over 5500 members working in the field of child care/early childhood education. We believe children are our most important natural resource and work hard to advocate for children, families and for professionalism within the early childhood community.

Testimony: HB 185

Submitted to: Budget and Taxation Committee
March 27, 2025

MSCCA strongly supports HB 185 to secure necessary, continued funding for this important program for child care.

The purpose of this program is to provide critical grants to child care providers specializing in health/medical-based programs in coordination with early education services.

Therapeutic child care is crucial for eligible children and their families because it provides a supportive environment that addresses health, developmental, behavioral, and emotional needs, promoting healthy development and well-being. Therapeutic child care can help children develop the skills and confidence they need to succeed in school, both academically and socially.

The therapeutic child care support for families reduces stress and anxiety, as well as empowering parents by equipping them with knowledge and skills to support their child's health and development.

MSCCA recommends securing the funding in the budget for these programs for the children and families who desperately need support contributing to greater family stability.

MSCCA urges a favorable report.