



**Local power, collective voice
for Maryland's children, youth and families**

February 21, 2025

SUPPORT – SB462 – State Board of Education - Membership - Early Childhood Development Professional

Dear Senators:

On behalf of the Maryland Association of Local Management Boards, I am writing in support of **SB462 – State Board of Education - Membership - Early Childhood Development Professional**, which will increase the membership of the State Board of Education from 13 to 14 to include an early childhood development professional as a member.

In September 2024, the Maryland Association of Local Management Boards and the Anne Arundel Early Childhood Childcare Taskforce hosted the first annual statewide and third annual county summit to bring awareness to the needs of the childcare ecosystem. [Some of the feedback given](#) cited the lack of representation of childcare providers on the State Board of Education.

HB 524 will create equity in the composition of the State Board of Education membership, which is reflective of priorities and challenges of the Early Childhood education and care system, as well as inclusive of diverse practitioners, specifically Early Childhood Development Professionals. The positive outcomes of adding an early childhood development professional and practitioner include:

- Offering opportunities to collaborate to build a stronger birth-to-five system in Maryland.
- Supporting the Board in capacity building for not only the PreK mixed delivery goals of the Blueprint Pillar 1, but for the comprehensive birth to five system in Maryland.
- Providing crucial insights into successes, challenges, and concerns faced by the early childhood education and care community to align decisions with the needs in the community.
- Creating necessary balance for the Board composition to include expert members who possess important knowledge and experience and are directly affected by decisions.



Local power, collective voice
for Maryland's children, youth and families

- Supporting the work of the Board to understand how regulatory decisions and policies will impact the birth to five ecosystem.
- Ensuring the potential business and financial impacts of Board policies and decisions are shared for consideration.

We urge you to support SB462 – State Board of Education - Membership - Early Childhood Development Professional to strengthen the voices of early childhood professionals at the state level.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "P M Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Pamela M. Brown, PhD
Legislative Chair
Maryland Association of Local Management Boards