

HB0275 - Child support- multifamily adjustment cro

Uploaded by: Barbara Hauck

Position: FAV

Dear the Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with Out for Justice. I am a resident of District 45. I am a voter, homeowner, and active community member. **I am testifying in support of HB0275: Child Support Multifamily Adjustment.**



Showing Up for Racial Justice

Due to a variety of factors, a parent may be supporting both children who live in their home, and children who do not. Currently, the determination of what child support a parent can afford to pay does not take into account whether they are also supporting children in their household. These children may not necessarily be biologically their own, but such blended families are common, and these children are not any less deserving of support from their caretakers. The more children that are being raised, logically, the more expensive it is to support the family. When the court does not take these situations into consideration, the resulting child support award may force the person paying the support to pay less than is ordered, or to shirk their responsibility for the other children in the household. In either case, the obligation for support is thrown more heavily on the other parent/caretaker.

HB0275 would mandate that the court considering a child support award consider any children in the household of the payor and grant an allowance for such children in their calculations. This will not only lead to more equitable results, but it will also increase the likelihood of consistent and full child support payments.

It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to **vote in support of HB0275: Child Support-Multifamily Adjustment.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,

Barbara Hauck

3420 Harford Road

Baltimore, MD 21218

Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

CROSS-OVER HB 275 Family Law – Child Support – Mul

Uploaded by: Catherine OMalley

Position: FAV

BILL NO: House Bill 0275
TITLE: Family Law – Child Support – Multifamily Adjustment
COMMITTEE: Judicial Proceedings
HEARING DATE: March 27, 2025
POSITION: **SUPPORT**

House Bill 0275 would alter the definition of “actual adjusted income” in Maryland’s Child Support Statute, to account for other children for whom one or both of the parties are financially responsible. The Women’s Law Center of Maryland (WLC) supports HB 0275 as it will more realistically calculate child support orders in the many cases where one or both of the parties are also financially responsible for children who are not a part of the child support order at hand.

There have been repeated attempts to add this calculation into child support law in Maryland, with other iterations of this idea. HB 0275 was drafted in consultation with many stakeholders, including an economist and others who work in the social science field of child support, as well as Maryland practitioners of family law, and child support staff from around the state.

HB 0275 would apply to both parties, the payor and the payee. It uses a mathematical formula with an “allowance” for other children for whom the party is responsible and who spends at least 92 nights with that parent. This allowance is deducted from the party’s actual income before child support is calculated. The court would also be able to consider any other financial consideration as enunciated in the bill. And overall, the court would also be determining the best interests of the child at issue.

The WLC recognizes that sometimes parties to a child support case have financial responsibility for other children than the ones who are subject of a particular child support case. HB 0275 seeks to take this into account. We support the policy that child support orders should be realistic, and not cause a party to not be able to comply from the outset.

As such, The Women’s Law Center of Maryland urges a favorable report on House Bill 0275.

The Women’s Law Center of Maryland is a private, non-profit, legal services organization that serves as a leading voice for justice and fairness for women. It advocates for the rights of women through legal assistance to individuals and strategic initiatives to achieve systemic change, working to ensure physical safety, economic security, and bodily autonomy for women in Maryland.

Del Charlotte Crutchfield Testimony for HB 275 Fam

Uploaded by: Charlotte Crutchfield

Position: FAV

CHARLOTTE A. CRUTCHFIELD, ESQ.
Legislative District 19
Montgomery County

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Judiciary Committee

Subcommittees

Chair, Family and Juvenile Law

Public Safety



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 403
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3485 · 301-858-3485
800-492-7122 Ext. 3485
Charlotte.Crutchfield@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 27, 2025

The Judicial Proceedings Committee
The Honorable Senator William C. Smith, Jr., Chair
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: House Bill 275: Family Law-Child Support-Multifamily Adjustment

Dear Chairman Smith, Vice-Chair Waldstreicher and Committee Members:

HB 275 is the product of research and input from the Maryland Child Support Guidelines Advisory Committee, coordinated and chaired by the Maryland Department of Human Services.

This legislation will create a deduction for child support determinations. Specifically, a deduction may be given when determining a parent's income for child support purposes based on situations when a parent has an additional child(ren) who live(s) with them, and to whom that parent has a duty of support. This additional child(ren) may be born before or after the child for whom support is being determined i.e., from a prior or a subsequent marriage/ relationship. What is key is not the order of birth of the child or whether there is a preexisting child support obligation (which is currently the case) but that the child lives with the parent and as such, the parent is providing care and financial support for that child. In other words, this legislation shifts away from the notion that parents with multiple households should solely bear the responsibility of augmenting income to compensate for their situation. Instead, HB 275 emphasizes acknowledging the existence of children in both households, understanding the constraints of income due to the support of extra dependents, and reducing the impact related to the sequence of birth order.

Currently, child support guidelines are calculated using the parties "adjusted actual income", which is their gross monthly income, minus alimony and/or child support that a court has previously ordered the party to pay. At present, financial support provided by parents for children living in their homes is not considered if a court has not ordered the parent to provide

such support. HB 275 bill would permit courts-when establishing or modifying child support-to account for the financial support parties provide to children living in their homes, to whom the parents owe a duty of support, but for whom there is no preexisting child support order. The legislation would add a new deduction from each parent's "actual income" for a "hypothetical support" amount deemed to be provided by that parent for the child(ren) living in his or her home. Both the payor and payee of the child support order would be entitled to this deduction from their actual income.

To calculate the hypothetical support amount, a court must determine the basic support obligation-based solely on that parent's income-for the number of children living in the parent's home, when multiplying the basic support obligation by 75%. The resulting figure (75 percent of what they would be required to pay if their child support obligations were calculated under the current guidelines) will be subtracted from the parent's actual income to produce the "adjusted actual income" amount. Under this bill, the courts would be permitted to exercise discretion to decline to apply the deduction if the deduction would be "unjust or inappropriate" in any given case.

I respectfully request a favorable report for House Bill 275.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charlotte Crutchfield".

Delegate Charlotte Crutchfield

HB0275 - Child support- multifamily adjustment cro

Uploaded by: Daryl Yoder

Position: FAV

Dear the Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with Out for Justice. I am a resident of District 44A and a longtime volunteer with Out for Justice. **I am testifying in support of HB0275: Child Support Multifamily Adjustment.**



Showing Up for Racial Justice

Due to a variety of factors, a parent may be supporting both children who live in their home, and children who do not. Currently, the determination of what child support a parent can afford to pay does not take into account whether they are also supporting children in their household. These children may not necessarily be biologically their own, but such blended families are common, and these children are not any less deserving of support from their caretakers. The more children that are being raised, logically, the more expensive it is to support the family. When the court does not take these situations into consideration, the resulting child support award may force the person paying the support to pay less than is ordered, or to shirk their responsibility for the other children in the household. In either case, the obligation for support is thrown more heavily on the other parent/caretaker.

HB0275 would mandate that the court considering a child support award consider any children in the household of the payor, and grant an allowance for such children in their calculations. This will not only lead to more equitable results, it will increase the likelihood of consistent and full child support payments.

It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to **vote in support of HB0275: Child Support-Multifamily Adjustment.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,
Daryl Yoder
309 Glenmore Ave.
Catonsville, MD 21228
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

HB0275 - Child support- multifamily adjustment.pdf

Uploaded by: Erica Palmisano

Position: FAV

Dear the Members of the Judiciary Committee,

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with Out for Justice. I am a resident of 12A. **I am testifying in support of HB0275: Child Support Multifamily Adjustment.**



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It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to **vote in support of HB0275: Child Support-Multifamily Adjustment.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,
Erica Palmisano
5580 Vantage Point Rd, Apt 5, Columbia, MD 21044
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

Dear the Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with Out for Justice. I am a resident of 12. **I am testifying in support of HB0275: Child Support Multifamily Adjustment.**



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Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,
Erica Palmisano
5580 Vantage Point Rd, Apt 5, Columbia, MD 21044
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

HB0275 - Child support- multifamily adjustment.pdf

Uploaded by: Holly Powell

Position: FAV

Dear the Members of the Judiciary Committee,

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with Out for Justice. I am a resident of **District 46**. **I am testifying in support of HB0275: Child Support Multifamily Adjustment.**



Showing Up for Racial Justice

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It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to **vote in support of HB0275: Child Support-Multifamily Adjustment.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,
Holly Powell
2308 Cambridge Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21224
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

HB0275 - Child support- multifamily adjustment cro

Uploaded by: John Ford

Position: FAV

Dear Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with Out for Justice. I am a resident of **District 46**. **I am testifying in support of HB0275: Child Support Multifamily Adjustment.**



Showing Up for Racial Justice

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It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to **vote in support of HB0275: Child Support-Multifamily Adjustment.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,

John Preston Ford

529 S East Ave, Baltimore, MD 21224

Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

Testimony in Support of HB0275_Blaha_SURJ.pdf

Uploaded by: Katherine Blaha

Position: FAV

Tuesday, March 25, 2025



Showing Up for Racial Justice

Dear the Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

I am submitting this testimony as a member of Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) Baltimore, a group of individuals working to mobilize white people in a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with Out for Justice, which advocates for the reform of policies and practices that adversely affect incarcerated people's successful reintegration into society. I am a resident of Baltimore City and District 41. I am testifying in **support of HB0275: Child Support Multifamily Adjustment.**

Due to a variety of factors, a parent may be supporting both children who live in their home, and children who do not. Currently, the determination of the amount of child support a parent can afford does not take into account whether they are also supporting children in their household. These children may not necessarily be biologically their own, but such blended families are common, and these children are not any less deserving of support from their caretakers. The more children that are being raised, the more expensive it is to support the family. When the court does not take these situations into consideration, the resulting child support award may force the person paying the support to pay less than is ordered, or to shirk their responsibility for the other children in their household. In either case, the obligation to provide financial support falls more heavily on the other parents or caretakers.

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It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to **vote in support of HB0275: Child Support-Multifamily Adjustment.t.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Katherine Blaha

5706 Cross Country Blvd

Baltimore, MD 21209

Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) Baltimore

HB0275 - Child support- multifamily adjustment cro

Uploaded by: Lindsay Keipper

Position: FAV

Dear the Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with Out for Justice. I am a resident of **D46 and I am testifying in support of HB0275: Child Support Multifamily Adjustment.**



Showing Up for Racial Justice

Due to a variety of factors, a parent may be supporting both children who live in their home, and children who do not. Currently, the determination of what child support a parent can afford to pay does not take into account whether they are also supporting children in their household. These children may not necessarily be biologically their own, but such blended families are common, and these children are not any less deserving of support from their caretakers. The more children that are being raised, logically, the more expensive it is to support the family. When the court does not take these situations into consideration, the resulting child support award may force the person paying the support to pay less than is ordered, or to shirk their responsibility for the other children in the household. In either case, the obligation for support is thrown more heavily on the other parent/caretaker.

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It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to **vote in support of HB0275: Child Support-Multifamily Adjustment.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,
Lindsay Keipper
2425 Fleet St.

Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

Badeker_HB0275 - Child support- multifamily adjust

Uploaded by: Melissa Badeker

Position: FAV

Dear the Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with Out for Justice. I am a resident of District 8. **I am testifying in support of HB0275: Child Support Multifamily Adjustment.**



Showing Up for Racial Justice

Due to a variety of factors, a parent may be supporting both children who live in their home, and children who do not. Currently, the determination of what child support a parent can afford to pay does not take into account whether they are also supporting children in their household. These children may not necessarily be biologically their own, but such blended families are common, and these children are not any less deserving of support from their caretakers. The more children that are being raised, logically, the more expensive it is to support the family. When the court does not take these situations into consideration, the resulting child support award may force the person paying the support to pay less than is ordered, or to shirk their responsibility for the other children in the household. In either case, the obligation for support is thrown more heavily on the other parent/caretaker.

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It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to **vote in support of HB0275: Child Support-Multifamily Adjustment.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,

Melissa Badeker
3020 Linwood Avenue, Parkville MD 21234
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

2025 03 25, HB 275_FLSC_FAV child support multifam

Uploaded by: Michelle Smith

Position: FAV

To: Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

From: Family Law Section Council (FLSC)

Date: March 25, 2025

Subject: House Bill 275
Family Law – Child Support – Multifamily Adjustment

Position: FAVORABLE

The Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA) FLSC **supports House Bill 275**

This testimony is submitted on behalf of the Family Law Section Council (“FLSC”) of the Maryland State Bar Association (“MSBA”). The FLSC is the formal representative of the Family Law Section of the MSBA, which promotes the objectives of the MSBA by improving the administration of justice in the field of family law and, at the same time, tries to bring together the members of the MSBA who are concerned with family laws and in reforms and improvements in such laws through legislation or otherwise. The FLSC is charged with the general supervision and control of the affairs of the Section and authorized to act for the Section in any way in which the Section itself could act. The Section has over 1,100 attorney members.

Maryland, like most other states across the country, calculates child support orders based on an “income-shares” model, which considers parental income, the number of shared minor children, and several other factors such as alimony payments, health insurance costs, and extraordinary medical expenses when setting the rate of child support. See Maryland Family Law Code § 12-204. This model aims to ensure that children receive the same proportion of parental income as they would if the parents resided in the same household.

Unlike most other states,¹ however, Maryland’s child support laws do not adjust a parent’s income for the purpose of calculating child support based on whether they are supporting additional dependent children in their home. In other words, Maryland’s child support guidelines currently calculate child support as if the children at issue in the child support case are their parents’ *only* children; there is no consideration of the fact that either or both parents might also

¹ See Jane C. Venohr, *Child Support Guidelines and Guidelines Reviews: State Differences and Common Issues*, 47 FAM. L.Q. 327, 343 (2013) (“Most state guidelines provide an income deduction to recognize a parent’s financial support of his or her additional children.”).

be legally responsible for additional children in their households and how that factor impacts their disposable income.

HB 275 seeks to update Maryland's child support laws to reflect the reality that a growing number of American families are comprised of parents who have had children with multiple partners. This bill amends the child support guidelines to create an income deduction for parents who have additional children in their homes besides the children at issue in a given child support case. By reducing a parent's available income based on the number of additional children for whom the parent is responsible, HB 275 recognizes the fact that modern American families often consist of parents who are juggling financial responsibilities to multiple children, and it ensures that no single child gets shortchanged.

This income deduction for additional dependent children would apply *equally* to custodial as well as non-custodial parents, thus fostering a sense of fairness and equity in cases that are, by nature, emotionally charged and highly contested. Child support offers children an important source of financial stability and consistency, and HB 275 will ensure that it is calculated fairly and accurately, with full consideration of each parent's financial realities.

For the reason(s) stated above, the MSBA FLSC **supports House Bill 275 and urges a favorable committee report.**

Should you have any questions, please contact Michelle Smith at 410-280-1700 or msmith@lawannapolis.com.

SEN - HB0275 - FAV - DHS.pdf

Uploaded by: Rachel Sledge Government Affairs

Position: FAV



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Rafael López, Secretary

March 27, 2025

The Hon. Will Smith, Chair
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: TESTIMONY ON HB0275 - FAMILY LAW - CHILD SUPPORT - MULTIFAMILY
ADJUSTMENT - POSITION: FAVORABLE**

Dear Chair Smith and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

The Maryland Department of Human Services (DHS) thanks the Committee for the opportunity to provide favorable testimony regarding House Bill 275 (HB 275). The bill is the result of research and input from the Maryland Child Support Guidelines Advisory Committee, coordinated and chaired by DHS. Delegate Crutchfield graciously sponsored the bill for the Committee the last two legislative sessions.

With offices in every one of Maryland's jurisdictions, DHS empowers Marylanders to reach their full potential by providing preventative and supportive services, economic assistance, and meaningful connections to employment development and career opportunities. Our Child Support Administration (CSA) implements the child support program affected by HB 275. The bill revises the calculation of a child support obligation to include considering children living in a household who are not subject to a current child support action, but for whom a parent owes a legal duty of support. In addition, HB 275 allows courts the discretion to deviate from the guidelines for any financial consideration the court finds is in the best interests of the child.

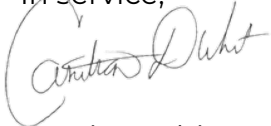
CSA often encounters situations where one or both parents owe a duty of support to other children living in the home who are not parties to a child support order. Currently, Maryland law only authorizes a court to consider the presence of other children as a "possible ground" for deviating from the child support guidelines. HB 275 would amend the definition of "adjusted actual income" in Family Law Article § 12-201(c) to establish an allowance for each additional child living in a parent's home to whom the parent owes duty of support, but who are not subject to the support order.

HB 275 aligns with the Department's goals to make child support more equitable by considering the child(ren) living in a parent's household. A parent's financial resources

are finite. HB 275 would provide new flexibility to CSA and the courts to determine a fair distribution of those limited resources. When child support orders are more equitable, parents are more likely to avoid arrearages and collection actions.

We appreciate the opportunity to offer favorable testimony to the Committee as you consider how best to modernize child support in Maryland. If you require additional information, please contact Rachel Sledge, Director of Government Affairs, at rachel.sledge@maryland.gov.

In-service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carnitra White".

Carnitra White
Principal Deputy Secretary

HB0275 - Child support- multifamily adjustment cro

Uploaded by: Rebecca Shillenn

Position: FAV

Dear the Members of the Judiciary Proceedings Committee,

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with Out for Justice. I am a resident of **District 45, and both a parent and a stepparent. I am testifying in support of HB0275: Child Support Multifamily Adjustment.**



Showing Up for Racial Justice

Due to a variety of factors, a parent may be supporting both children who live in their home, and children who do not. Currently, the determination of what child support a parent can afford to pay does not take into account whether they are also supporting children in their household. These children may not necessarily be biologically their own, but such blended families are common, and these children are not any less deserving of support from their caretakers. The more children that are being raised, logically, the more expensive it is to support the family. When the court does not take these situations into consideration, the resulting child support award may force the person paying the support to pay less than is ordered, or to shirk their responsibility for the other children in the household. In either case, the obligation for support is thrown more heavily on the other parent/caretaker.

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It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to **vote in support of HB0275: Child Support-Multifamily Adjustment.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Shillenn

5401 Elsrode Avenue, Baltimore 21214

Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

HB0275 - Child support- multifamily adjustment cro

Uploaded by: Spencer Baldacci

Position: FAV

Dear the Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with Out for Justice. I am a resident of Maryland Legislative District 40. **I am testifying in support of HB0275: Child Support Multifamily Adjustment.**



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Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,
Spencer Baldacci
1201 W Mount Royal Ave, Unite 258
Baltimore, MD 21217
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

HB0275 - Child support- multifamily adjustment_cro

Uploaded by: Theresa M. Hoffman

Position: FAV

Dear Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with Out for Justice. I am a resident of District 43b. I **am testifying in support of HB0275 – Child Support – Multifamily Adjustment.**



Showing Up for Racial Justice

Due to a variety of factors, a parent may be supporting children who live in their home as well as children who do not. Currently, the determination of what child support a parent can afford to pay does not account for whether they are also supporting children in their household. These children living in a parent's household are not necessarily the parent's biological children, but such blended families are common, and children in blended families are no less deserving of support from their caregivers. The more children who are being raised, logically, the more expensive it is to support the family. When the court does not take these situations into consideration, the resulting child support award may force the person paying the support to pay less than is ordered, or to shirk their responsibility for the other children in the household. In either case, the obligation for support is thrown more heavily on the other parent/caretaker.

HB0275 would mandate that the court considering a child support award consider any children in the household of the payor and grant an allowance for such children in their calculations. This will not only lead to more equitable results, it will increase the likelihood of consistent and full child support payments.

It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to **vote in support of HB0275 – Child Support – Multifamily Adjustment.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,
Theresa M. Hoffman
803 Seaward Rd., Towson, MD 21286
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

Copy of HB0275 - Child support- multifamily adjust

Uploaded by: Alicia Pereschuk

Position: FWA

Dear the Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with Out for Justice. I am a resident of District #43. **I am testifying in support of HB0275: Child Support Multifamily Adjustment.**



Showing Up for Racial Justice

Due to a variety of factors, a parent may be supporting both children who live in their home, and children who do not. Currently, the determination of what child support a parent can afford to pay does not take into account whether they are also supporting children in their household. These children may not necessarily be biologically their own, but such blended families are common, and these children are not any less deserving of support from their caretakers. The more children that are being raised, logically, the more expensive it is to support the family. When the court does not take these situations into consideration, the resulting child support award may force the person paying the support to pay less than is ordered, or to shirk their responsibility for the other children in the household. In either case, the obligation for support is thrown more heavily on the other parent/caretaker.

HB0275 would mandate that the court considering a child support award consider any children in the household of the payor, and grant an allowance for such children in their calculations. This will not only lead to more equitable results, it will increase the likelihood of consistent and full child support payments.

It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to **vote in support of HB0275: Child Support-Multifamily Adjustment.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,
Alicia Pereschuk
319 Homeland Southway
Baltimore MD 21212
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore