



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**TESTIMONY OF DELEGATE PAM QUEEN**  
**HB 1559 – Child Care Scholarship Program - Alterations (Child Care for Working Families Act)**  
**SUPPORT**

Greetings Chair Maggie McIntosh, Vice-Chair Michael Jackson, and members of the Appropriations Committee:

HB 1559 revises our Child Care subsidy program to address the high cost of childcare with providing childcare support based on the percentage of family income according to Federal poverty guidelines.

Access to high-quality child care encompasses both availability and affordability, and families across the country struggle with both. For many parents, childcare of any kind is unaffordable. In some states, the average cost of childcare exceeds the cost of housing or college tuition.

While the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services defines “affordable child care” as no more than 7% of a family’s income, most families pay much more. One in three families spends at least 20% of their income on care for one child. Single- parent families spend an average of 35%. Parents of infants and toddlers face the highest costs.

In fact, in 28 states and the District of Columbia, infant care costs exceed the average cost of in-state college tuition at public 4-year institutions. These costs make it difficult for parents to balance the high cost of childcare while securing a well-paying job and providing for their family.

HB 1559 enables working families to be eligible for some-level of childcare subsidies; and limits a family’s percentage of childcare cost to 10% of its income.

I seek a favorable recommendation for this important bill for Maryland’s working families.

Poverty Guidelines, all states (except Alaska and Hawaii)

2020 Annual

Household /Family Size	50%	*100%*	125%	130%	133%	135%	138%	150%	175%	185%	200%	250%	300%	400%
<b>1</b>	6,380	\$12,760	15,950	16,588	16,971	17,226	17,609	19,140	22,330	23,606	25,520	31,900	38,280	51,040
<b>2</b>	8,620	\$17,240	21,550	22,412	22,929	23,274	23,791	25,860	30,170	31,894	34,480	43,100	51,720	68,960
<b>3</b>	10,860	\$21,720	27,150	28,236	28,888	29,322	29,974	32,580	38,010	40,182	43,440	54,300	65,160	86,880
<b>4</b>	13,100	\$26,200	32,750	34,060	34,846	35,370	36,156	39,300	45,850	48,470	52,400	65,500	78,600	104,800
<b>5</b>	15,340	\$30,680	38,350	39,884	40,804	41,418	42,338	46,020	53,690	56,758	61,360	76,700	92,040	122,720
<b>6</b>	17,580	\$35,160	43,950	45,708	46,763	47,466	48,521	52,740	61,530	65,046	70,320	87,900	105,480	140,640
<b>7</b>	19,820	\$39,640	49,550	51,532	52,721	53,514	54,703	59,460	69,370	73,334	79,280	99,100	118,920	158,560
<b>8</b>	22,060	\$44,120	55,150	57,356	58,680	59,562	60,886	66,180	77,210	81,622	88,240	110,300	132,360	176,480
<b>9</b>	24,300	\$48,600	60,750	63,180	64,638	65,610	67,068	72,900	85,050	89,910	97,200	121,500	145,800	194,400
<b>10</b>	26,540	\$53,080	66,350	69,004	70,596	71,658	73,250	79,620	92,890	98,198	106,160	132,700	159,240	212,320

Poverty Guidelines, all states (except Alaska and Hawaii)

2020 Monthly

Household /Family Size	50%	*100%*	125%	130%	133%	135%	138%	150%	175%	185%	200%	250%	300%	400%
<b>1</b>	532	\$1,063	1,329	1,382	1,414	1,436	1,467	1,595	1,861	1,967	2,127	2,658	3,190	4,253
<b>2</b>	718	\$1,437	1,796	1,868	1,911	1,940	1,983	2,155	2,514	2,658	2,873	3,592	4,310	5,747
<b>3</b>	905	\$1,810	2,263	2,353	2,407	2,444	2,498	2,715	3,168	3,349	3,620	4,525	5,430	7,240
<b>4</b>	1,092	\$2,183	2,729	2,838	2,904	2,948	3,013	3,275	3,821	4,039	4,367	5,458	6,550	8,733
<b>5</b>	1,278	\$2,557	3,196	3,324	3,400	3,452	3,528	3,835	4,474	4,730	5,113	6,392	7,670	10,227
<b>6</b>	1,465	\$2,930	3,663	3,809	3,897	3,956	4,043	4,395	5,128	5,421	5,860	7,325	8,790	11,720
<b>7</b>	1,652	\$3,303	4,129	4,294	4,393	4,460	4,559	4,955	5,781	6,111	6,607	8,258	9,910	13,213
<b>8</b>	1,838	\$3,677	4,596	4,780	4,890	4,964	5,074	5,515	6,434	6,802	7,353	9,192	11,030	14,707
<b>9</b>	2,025	\$4,050	5,063	5,265	5,387	5,468	5,589	6,075	7,088	7,493	8,100	10,125	12,150	16,200
<b>10</b>	2,212	\$4,423	5,529	5,750	5,883	5,972	6,104	6,635	7,741	8,183	8,847	11,058	13,270	17,693