



3/28/2022

Re: HB 1026 – Human Services - Two Generation Family Economic Security Commission - Membership and Compensation – Position: Favorable with Amendments

Dear Honorable Chair Kelley and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Maryland Community Action Partnership (MCAP) to urge your support of HB 1026 – Human Services - Two Generation Family Economic Security Commission - Membership and Compensation, with amendments. MCAP wholeheartedly supports the work of the bill’s sponsor, Delegate Valentino-Smith, in advocating for and amplifying the voices of individuals with low-income in Maryland.

The Maryland Community Action Partnership (MCAP) is a statewide non-profit organization comprised of Maryland’s 17 Community Action Agencies, which collectively serve every Maryland county. Together, we work toward eradicating homelessness and poverty to realize our vision of ensuring that all Maryland individuals and families are stable, economically secure, and live in safe and thriving communities.

MCAP has been actively involved in the work of holistically serving families through a Two-Generation approach. In 2017, MCAP served as a member on the Governor’s Two Generation Family Economic Security Commission. As a result of the work on the Commission, Community Action Agencies began working to implement Two-Generation strategies to holistically serve families across the state. This work has provided us with the insight and on-the ground knowledge needed to ensure the success of 2-G initiatives, which leads directly to the success of Maryland families. With this knowledge, **we propose the following amendments to HB1026:**

- Strike “or community action partnerships” from *page 2, line 22*.
- Add “one member appointed by the Maryland Community Action Partnership” beginning on *page 2, line 23*.

It is MCAP’s position that with the afore mentioned amendments to HB 1026, this bill meets a critically important need to include the voices and lived experience of individuals who have lived or are living in poverty, as well as the organizations who are working to serve those individuals and their families.

If there is any additional information that I can provide for you as you consider this bill, I would be happy to help. You can contact me at amartin@maryland-cap.org, or by calling 205-757-0764.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Angela Martin", written over a white background.

Angela Martin, Executive Director