



Hearing Testimony March 3, 2022
House Health and Government Operations Committee
Service Employees International Union, Local 500, CtW, CLC

**House Bill 1382: Children - Family Child Care Homes and the Chief Medical Examiner -
Use of Video Recording Devices and Reports (Bexley's Law)**

OPPOSE

Dear Chair Pendergrass and members of the House Health and Government Operations Committee,

On behalf of the 20,000 working people in our region represented by SEIU Local 500, we offer our strong opposition for **House Bill 1382**. Our union represents the support staff at the Montgomery County Public School system, Family Child Care Providers, Faculty at institutions of higher education, staff at non-profits, and many other working people across the region.

HB 1382 would require family child care providers to install video monitoring systems, record all of the data, and store that data creating a burdensome financial cost to the provider. While SEIU understands the intent of the bill, which at its heart is to keep kids safe, the requirements of the bill would be prohibitively expensive and nearly impossible for small, family child care providers to implement. The requirements about data storage alone are deeply concerning. Holding on to and then disposing of data for a 3-month period means that child care providers would have to maintain daily data review and dispose of stored data to meet the requirements of the bill. Staff time, data storage, "interruption reporting," and the technology upgrades required to implement this bill would be absolutely crippling.

This legislation is also unclear about what rights the parents have to decline to have their child being video recorded and under what circumstances a parent, law enforcement officer, or other member of the public may view these records. This sets up a potentially a dangerous standard that without further refining could permit dangerous individuals to routinely view video recordings of children without any kind of parameters or rationale about who is an appropriate person to view and review recordings and for what reasons.

HB 1382 could potential cause qualified family child care providers to choose not to go into business – causing lack of access to affordable, safe, and nurturing spaces for working families to count on. SEIU Local 500 urges this committee to vote unfavorable on this legislation.

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