

March 1, 2022

Maryland House of Delegates 6 Bladen St. Annapolis, MD. 21401

<u>In Support of HB 933</u>: Child Care Scholarship Program - Maryland Working Families Child Care Act of 2022

Members of the Maryland House of Delegate's Ways and Means Committee.

We are an organization of military and non-military families with over 1400 plus members fully support HB 933.

We support any bill that improves inclusion and equity in education, child care and especially for persons or vulnerable children, very low-income families and children living with disabilities. I am quite positive that any parent or education stakeholder will have an interest in seeing that legislation is being crafted to help support all of Maryland's working families tackle the daunting issues around child care.

These types of services are now baked into the recipe of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future and we taxpayers and education stakeholders have an obligation to the future, the children of our state. We especially have an obligation to help populations that have been marginalized for far too long in our state's history. The poor, and working families of our state. These families that need supports and services the most, especially after the last 2 years of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Yes, we need data and to study the need that is currently out there across all of Maryland's communities. But we also need to be bold in our actions to help support working families afford quality child care and support services.

We thank the Delegate and Senator for bringing forward such a positive and transformative piece of legislation. It truly will have a positive impact on all of our citizens and help give them agency in all education decisions in their lives.

We ask that the committee please return a favorable report, and support HB 933. Thank you all for your time and consideration of our testimony.

Respectfully,

Mr. Richard Ceruolo | Director of Public Policy | <u>richceruolo@gmail.com</u> Parent Advocacy Consortium (Find us on Facebook/Meta) | <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/ParentAdvocacyConsortium</u>