



Takoma Park Cooperative Nursery School, Inc.

8204 Flower Avenue • Takoma Park • Maryland • 20912
301.585.7272 • www.takomacooperativeschool.org

February 8, 2023

Ways and Means Committee

RE: Support HB525 Outdoor Preschool Licensing Pilot bill

Dear Honorable Ways and Means Committee;

I am a teacher and director of a parent cooperative school (parents own and operate the school) in Takoma Park, Montgomery County, Maryland. Our School was established in 1942 and in 2001 we lost our lease and moved to the only available space, a small bungalow, on Flower Avenue. The move saved our school, but it also, required us to downsize our full day program to half day and partial week. Since the move, we have looked for our “forever home.” We have found that home. It is right where we are and it embraces the outdoors.

Moving towards licensing outdoor schools will guarantee that we will be able return to a full day, full week program which so many families in our community need. Licensing will ensure that families and children have access to the same quality the Office of Child Care shapes for schools which offer indoor programs.

Our school community supports the House Bill to establish an Outdoor Preschool Licensing pilot.

Sincerely,

Lesley Romanoff

Cell 301-980-1796

Romanoff@tpcns.org