



**Caring For Maryland's Most  
Important Natural Resource™**

## **Maryland State Child Care Association**

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*The Maryland State Child Care Association (MSCCA) is a non-profit, statewide, professional association incorporated in 1984 to promote the growth and development of child care and learning centers in Maryland. MSCCA has over 5000 members working in the field of early childhood. We believe children are our most important natural resource and work hard to advocate for children, families and for professionalism within the early childhood community.*

**House Bill 770  
Publicly Funded Full-Day Prekindergarten Program - Tier I Child - Alteration of Definition  
House Ways and Means Committee  
Position: SUPPORT**

The Maryland State Child Care Association (MSCCA) enthusiastically supports House Bills 770. As a non-profit representing close to 5,000 child care professionals, we are appreciative that Chair Atterbeary is bringing forward this bill.

MSCCA believes children are our most important natural resource, and the state must work to meet the needs of *all* Maryland's children from birth to five and beyond. HB 770 aligns with these priorities and will address numerous obstacles and inequities by expanding the definition of a Tier 1 child to include all children who are 3 or 4, are enrolled in full-day prekindergarten, and have a disability, are homeless, or are from a home in which English is not the primary language spoken.

MSCCA's priorities include ensuring families have access to affordable, consistent, quality child care and prekindergarten options and to alleviate barriers for families. We believe that HB770 would go a long way in ensuring that our most vulnerable children and their families are supported when enrolled in full-day prekindergarten.

MSCCA urges a favorable report.