



CARROLL COUNTY YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU, INC.

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Testimony Before the House Appropriations Committee March 4, 2025

House Bill 1429 - Youth Services Bureaus - Criminal History Records Checks - Employees, Volunteers, and Interns Support

The Carroll County Youth Service Bureau (CCYSB) supports HB 1429 which will authorize Youth Service Bureaus to request a criminal history records check from the Criminal Justice Information System Central Repository for employees, volunteers, and interns.

The Carroll County Youth Service Bureau (CCYSB) is part of the statewide structure of Maryland Youth Service Bureaus for over 50 years. CCYSB is a multifaceted outpatient mental health treatment agency licensed by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, certified by the Council for the Accreditation of Rehabilitative Facilities (CARF), and certified by the Department of Juvenile Services. Treatment and prevention services are largely designed to support children, adolescents, and families, with adult services available as well. Treatment options include psychotherapy and psychiatric evaluations, and home-based services through the Family Preservation, Assertive Community Treatment, and Mobile treatment programs, and many programs serving youth of all ages. Additionally, we offer five (5) evidence-based treatment programs.

HB 1429 corrects an unintended consequence of a recent federal policy that limits access to federal background checks. Though MAYSB supports the reasons for the policy change, the current rules make it impossible for Youth Service Bureaus to conduct a full screening of new employees, interns, and volunteers, especially those who have lived in or traveled to another state.

While we are not currently experiencing the limitations of procuring federal background checks, I can assure you that our ability to comply with safety regulations from the State of Maryland and our accrediting agency (Council for the Accreditation of Rehabilitative Facilities- CARF) would be severely limited without the ability to have federal background checks for staff and interns.

Passage of HB 1429 would assist Youth Service Bureaus with creating the safest environment possible for the children and families we serve.

We respectfully ask you to support this bill.

Respectfully Submitted:



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