



**Local power, collective voice  
for Maryland's children, youth and families**

March 5, 2025

**SUPPORT – SB0857 – Child Care - Prekindergarten Expansion Grant Modifications and Workgroup**

Dear Senators:

On behalf of the Maryland Association of Local Management Boards, I am writing to express our support for the Child Care - Prekindergarten Expansion Grant Modifications and Workgroup SB0857. This initiative aims to simplify the Prekindergarten Expansion Grant process for private childcare providers. Local Management Boards in each county and jurisdiction across Maryland conduct community needs assessments to identify and address the needs of children and families in their respective areas. This bill seeks to alleviate private providers' barriers and aims to expand mixed-delivery childcare services.

In September 2024, the Maryland Association of Local Management Boards and the Anne Arundel Early Childhood Childcare Taskforce hosted the first annual statewide and third annual county summit to bring awareness to the needs of the childcare ecosystem. [Some of the feedback received](#) from this summit found that there were barriers for public providers to participate in the mixed delivery system. In Anne Arundel County, only two providers are receiving this grant, leaving a wide gap in achieving the goals of mixed delivery set by the Blueprint.

This bill will require the grant language to be simplified and in other languages for providers. It will also need specific dates for the application, allowing providers to better prepare for their businesses and assess the number of childcare slots they can facilitate. All funding for providers will be available on July 1, instead of the current reimbursement system that has left providers without payments for months. The technical assistance through a hub model will also support more providers applying for this grant. These items will allow more private providers to participate in the mixed delivery system.

**We urge you to support SB0857 – Child Care - Prekindergarten Expansion Grant Modifications and Workgroup** to support modifying the Prekindergarten Expansion Grant.

Sincerely,

Pamela M. Brown, PhD  
Chair