



**Maryland State
Family Child Care
Association**
www.msfccca.org

Testimony-Senate Bill 452
Child Care Affordability Commission – Establishment
Submitted by Ruby Daniels
President, Maryland State Family Child Care Association
February 12, 2025

Position-Favorable

Dear Chair Feldman and Vice Chair Kagan and members of the Education, Energy and Environment committee,

My name is Ruby Daniels, and I serve as **the President of the Maryland State Family Child Care Association**, representing thousands of family child care providers across our state. I have been a dedicated family child care provider for over 30 years, working firsthand with families who rely on affordable, high-quality child care.

Childcare is an essential service, yet the rising cost has put it out of reach for too many working families. At the same time, childcare providers—especially family child care programs—are struggling with increasing operational costs, from food and supplies to meeting regulatory requirements. The financial burden on both parents and providers is unsustainable, and the need for comprehensive, long-term solutions has never been more urgent.

The establishment of the **Child Care Affordability Commission** under Senate Bill 452 is a critical step forward. This commission will create a space where key stakeholders—including providers, parents, policymakers, business leaders, government, comptroller and experts—can come together to address the challenges facing our child care system. By bringing diverse perspectives to the table, we can develop meaningful, data-driven solutions to support families, stabilize the workforce, and ensure that high-quality child care remains accessible and sustainable.

A well-functioning child care system is not just a family issue—it is an economic issue. When families cannot find or afford child care, parents, especially mothers, are forced to leave the workforce, impacting businesses and the broader economy. Supporting this commission is an investment in Maryland's working families, its child care providers, and its economic future.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 452 and ensure that Maryland takes a proactive approach to making child care more affordable and sustainable for all.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ruby Daniels
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