

SB 868_MFN_FAV_Morrow_Sub Pool.pdf

Uploaded by: Beth Morrow

Position: FAV



Testimony Concerning SB 868
“Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program - Established”
Submitted to the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
March 5, 2025

Position: Favorable

Maryland Family Network (MFN) supports SB 868, which would establish a Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program.

MFN has worked since 1945 to improve the availability and quality of child care and other supports for children and their families. We have been active in state and federal debates on policies that address the needs of working families and are strongly committed to ensuring that they have the supports they need to care for their children while meeting the demands of their jobs.

A substitute pool program could provide critical support to the child care workforce by facilitating access to job-ready caregivers who can step in when staff needs to attend professional development, address healthcare needs, or take personal leave. The ability to take time off can improve job quality and prevent burn-out. Access to substitutes improves child care stability for families.

The child care industry faces workforce challenges, including recruiting and retaining staff. A substitute pool as part of a more comprehensive shared services system that supports child care providers' back-end operations associated with running their businesses could support the provision of quality child care for Maryland families.

MFN supports SB 868 and respectfully requests a favorable report.

Submitted by Beth Morrow, Director of Public Policy



SB 868 final testimony support MSCCA March 5 2025

Uploaded by: Christina Peusch

Position: FAV



**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 5500 members working in the field of child care/early childhood education. 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.

Testimony: SB 868 Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program- Establishment Submitted to: Education, Energy, and Environment Committee

March 5, 2025

Maryland State Child Care Association enthusiastically supports SB 868.

Establishing the Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program is a necessary lifeline for the essential child care workforce. SB 868 will help to build a workforce pipeline in a declining industry. The goal of SB 868 is to avoid or eliminate disruptions in early childhood education and care, which helps parent work and children thrive.

The pilot will provide opportunities to determine what will work in Maryland, look at other state models, use digital technology, and hopefully, fine tune the pilot to expand to a statewide child care substitute pool in the future.

Child care is a unique business which cannot be automated or delivered curbside. In order for parents to work, go to school or participate in training programs, they must have reliable, consistent, affordable, accessible child care with a qualified workforce.

Staff feel supported when they have options to care for themselves or their family should they get sick, or need time off, therefore a substitute pool will benefit the essential child car workforce with less turnover and less burnout in the field.

National research establishes a clear link between increased access to quality, affordable child care and increased Labor Rate Participation. Additionally, Counting Our Losses publication and research by Maryland Family Network looks at the overwhelming loss to the economy as a result of inadequate child care system. Maryland lost \$2.14 billion due to employee absence and turnover due to child care issues of working Maryland parents of children age five and under.

Child care is a public good and **child care is infrastructure**. Affordability and accessibility to child care ensures a functioning and thriving economy and labor market in the future. Child care in Maryland is declining and it is time to act with thoughtful intention and innovative solutions, however there is no one-size-fits-all solution. MSCCA believes SB 868 creates an opportunity to build a stronger child care infrastructure.

Maryland has lost more than 1,200 child care programs post COVID and without better infrastructure and workforce support, we will continue to decline. SB 868 seeks to build a stronger workforce infrastructure.

The Comptroller of Maryland urges in her State of the Economy recent report, As state leaders, we must do all we can to ensure that parents, especially those with young children, have affordable and accessible child care options and the opportunity to fully participate in the labor force.” <https://marylandtaxes.gov/reports/static-files/research/childcare.pdf>,

The time to act is now. The establishment of a child care substitute pool pilot program to ensure less interruptions in care and education will ensure the workforce is strongly supported, therefore enabling parents to earn while children learn.

MSCCA urges a favorable report.

SEIU Local 500 - SB868 - Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Elly Colmers

Position: FAV

Hearing Testimony March 5, 2025
Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
Service Employees International Union, Local 500

SB868

Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program - Established

SUPPORT

SEIU Local 500 represents over 20,000 working people in Maryland, Washington D.C., and Virginia. Our union represents the support staff at the Montgomery County Public School system, Family Child Care Providers, Faculty and Staff at several Maryland colleges and universities, staff at non-profits and many other working people across the region. We urge a FAVORABLE Report on SB868 – **Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program - Established**. We would also like to thank the sponsors for their support of the early childhood community.

Senate Bill 868 seeks to establish regional substitute teacher pools for child care facilities in Maryland and provides funding beginning in 2027 through 2030. This bill is a significant step forward in addressing one of the most pressing challenges that child care providers face—ensuring a reliable, qualified workforce to meet the needs of young children, even in the event of staff absences.

Child care facilities play an essential role in the early development of children, and maintaining consistent, high-quality care is critical for their growth and well-being. Unfortunately, staffing shortages and the difficulty in finding qualified substitute teachers are longstanding issues that many providers struggle with. By creating regional substitute teacher pools, this bill will help child care centers, family child care homes, and large family child care homes have access to a pool of qualified, vetted substitutes who can step in when needed. This will ensure that child care providers can maintain stability and continuity of care for children, even when regular staff are absent.

Additionally, this initiative will benefit child care providers by reducing the stress and logistical challenges of recruiting substitutes on short notice. It will also help alleviate the administrative burden, allowing child care providers to focus more on providing quality care rather than spending time searching for replacement staff. For families, this bill offers peace of mind knowing that their children will be cared for by qualified professionals, even in the event of an absence.

The establishment of a substitute teacher pool will also help to improve the retention of child care staff by providing greater flexibility in staffing, reducing burnout, and ensuring that staff are supported. This

pool could offer a more consistent and reliable workforce for child care facilities, ultimately benefiting both providers and families.

In conclusion, we fully support this bill as it will strengthen the child care sector in Maryland, support providers, and ensure that children continue to receive the high-quality care they deserve. I strongly encourage its passage.

Therefore, we request a favorable report on SB868.

Testimony 2025 SB0686 AAUW-Maryland.pdf

Uploaded by: Judy A. Carbone

Position: FAV



TO: Maryland General Assembly, House of Delegates, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

FROM: American Association of University Women of Maryland
Submitted by Judy A. Carbone, Co-Vice President, Public Policy, AAUW Maryland, and President, AAUW-Garrett Branch
301-616-5036, judy@corgi-cottage.com

DATE: 3 March 2025

RE: **Testimony in Support of SB0868** - Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program - Established

Founded in 1881, national AAUW's approximately 170,000 members and 1,000 branches nationwide are leaders in gender equity research, advocacy, and education. In Maryland, our members and supporters and our college and university partners are strong advocates for laws that promote the well-being of women and families.

As such, we write to you today to ask for your favorable report on SB0686 - Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program - Established.

In December 2024, the Comptroller of Maryland released a report entitled "State of the Economy Series: Child Care and the Economy". It released clear findings that Maryland's economy is being negatively affected by a lack of available child care spots, especially for pre-K children, which keep women in particular from participating in the labor market. Emphasis on finding solutions to these issues must be a part of the plan to increase the strength and robustness of the Maryland economy.

A summary of key findings from this brief include (note: full citations for the findings are included in the report, see citation below):

- Women in the age group of 25-45 now have a higher Labor Participation Rate (LPR) than prior to the pandemic, with single moms with children only under 6 years old seeing large gains. However, women with only young children still lag behind women without children and far behind men with young children in terms of LPR.
- There has been a steady and sustained decline in family care providers in Maryland, which likely affects infants the most, as well as toddlers. While overall capacity, or slots,

for children under 5 years old is unchanged from 2020 to 2024, it is unclear if there have been variations in capacity among the three age groups under 5: infants (0-18 months), toddlers (18-24 months), and preschoolers (2-4 years old).

- There is a decline in standalone child care centers and an increase in licensed child care centers within larger organizations like private schools and multiservice nonprofit organizations.
- State policy, including the Blueprint for Maryland's Future is driving shifts in the provision of care for 3- and 4-year-olds (who are now eligible for state-funded Pre-K) and children 5 and older enrolled in before and after school programs in Maryland.
- The types of businesses operating child care centers appears to be shifting with an apparent increase in child care centers within schools or nonprofit organizations amidst a decline in businesses operating one or more locations that solely or primarily provide child care.
- National research establishes a clear link between increased access to quality, affordable child care and increased LPR. Access to child care is also associated with improved productivity, increased state revenues, and greater economic security and earnings potential for women.
- Investments in Maryland's child care industry are essential to equitably growing Maryland's economy and keeping Maryland competitive, not to mention the educational and social benefits that children can receive from high quality care early in life.

Child care is a fragile market that requires government intervention to enable providers, often small businesses, to succeed and enable parents with young children to work. Child care challenges can create significant headwinds for equitable economic growth. A robust child care system with adequate capacity and affordability to meet demand for all parents interested in working outside of the home will enable more prime age adults to enter the labor force, thereby reducing job vacancies, allowing businesses to grow and create more jobs, and bolstering state revenue.

SB0686 establishes the Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program in the Maryland State Department of Education; providing for the purpose, administration, and funding for the Program. The members of AAUW-Maryland believe this can do much to alleviate the issues of a lack of child care slots in the state and allow more women to return to the workforce for the benefit of their families, their future earning potential and retirement savings, and the Maryland economy as a whole.

We thank you in advance for your favorable report on SB0686.

Thank you.

COA_written testimony_SB868_Substitute Child Care

Uploaded by: Laura Jahromi

Position: FAV



February 27, 2025

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 868 - Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program - Established

We respectfully urge the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee to make a favorable report on SB 868– Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program – Established as we believe it will help to ease the early care and education workforce shortage we are facing, while improving the quality and sustainability of child care programs.

For the last two years, we have been working with child care providers in Montgomery County to improve their eligibility and readiness to participate in Pre-K expansion in the mixed delivery system. One of the biggest barriers to participation is having educators who meet the educational and credentialing requirements, which is also connected to their quality rating score in the state's EXCELS system. Educators struggle to get to enough professional development opportunities as are needed because there are not enough available substitutes to cover their classes while they attend training.

We are facing a precipitous decline in the number of registered family child care homes. According to Maryland Family Network's 2024 Child Care Demographics report, the number one reason that family child care providers left the profession is because of burnout. With limited substitutes available to help when providers are sick, going to doctors' appointments, or attending to other important matters, burnout is more likely to occur.

Launching a substitute pool pilot program will lessen the stress of the current early care and education workforce, improve their quality by allowing the time to attend professional development trainings, and ultimately improve retention and sustainability of the workforce. This in turn will result in increased access to child care for families so that parents can participate in the labor force.

Submitted on behalf of the Children's Opportunity Alliance by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura Jahromi".

Laura Jahromi, Manager, Strategic Initiatives
The Montgomery County Children's Opportunity Alliance
1801 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852 | 301-450-1871 |
laura@mocochildren.org

The Montgomery County [Children's Opportunity Alliance](https://www.mocochildren.org) is a locally legislated Early Care and Education Coordinating Entity that connects our community to build an equitable, accessible, high-quality, and sustainable early childhood system that narrows disparities and puts young children on a path to reach their greatest potential.

SB868sponsorfinaltestimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Linda Hanifin Bonner

Position: FAV



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

SPONSOR TESTIMONY
Senate Bill 868
Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program

Chairman Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Committee Members

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce Senate Bill SB868 -Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program

For the record, I am Senator Shaneka Henson from the 30th Legislative District of Anne Arundel County, MD

Establishing the Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program is about ensuring that childcare facilities can stay open and fully staffed, even when unexpected absences happen. Right now, childcare providers—whether they are in centers, family childcare homes, or large family childcare homes—struggle with staffing shortages. When someone calls out sick or has an emergency, there often is not an available, qualified substitute to step in, which can lead to temporary closures or reduced services.

This bill creates a pool of pre-vetted, trained substitute childcare providers who are ready to fill those short-term gaps. It is a simple, common-sense way to support working parents, keep childcare businesses running smoothly, and make sure kids have the consistent care they deserve. I introduced this because I have heard directly from providers, families, and advocates that this is a huge issue, and I believe we can fix it.

The pilot program is for all licensed childcare facilities—that includes family childcare homes, large family childcare homes, and traditional childcare centers. Family childcare providers are a critical part of our childcare system, and they often do not have the same staffing flexibility as larger centers. That is why I made sure

they are included—so they, too, can have access to trained substitutes when they need them.

We recognize that we are in a tight budget year, and every dollar we invest must be justified. That is exactly why this bill makes sense. A \$375,000 annual investment is a small price to pay compared to the economic impact of childcare closures on working families and businesses. But when parents do not have childcare, they cannot go to work—that affects productivity, businesses, and even tax revenues.

This program is not just an expense; it is a strategic investment in keeping our childcare system stable and dependable. We are also starting with a pilot so we can evaluate the model before making a larger commitment. That kind of fiscal responsibility should give lawmakers confidence in supporting it.

We are going to establish a process to determine if this is a viable statewide program by asking whether:

- Is this working for childcare providers?
- Are substitutes being used effectively?
- Are we reducing disruptions in care?

We will be looking at how often substitutes are deployed, how many providers participate, and whether facilities report fewer staffing-related closures.

We are also going to listen directly to childcare providers, families, and the substitutes themselves—do they feel supported? Is the process easy to navigate? Does this help stabilize their operations? That real-world feedback will tell us if this is a scalable solution or if we need to adjust before expanding statewide.

This program is intended to accomplish three essential goals.

1. Increase childcare stability—reduce closures and disruptions due to staffing shortages.
2. Build a pipeline of qualified providers—give more people a pathway into early childhood education by helping them meet training and credentialing requirements.
3. Make it easy and effective—ensure that childcare facilities and providers use and benefit from the program.

We will set measurable targets—like how many substitutes we recruit, how many facilities participate, and how often substitutes are placed—to make sure we are delivering real impact. If we hit those goals, this could become a model for permanent statewide implementation.

By establishing the Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program in the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), we can facilitate the continuous operation of childcare facilities in the State by ensuring that qualified substitute childcare providers are available to fill short-term staffing needs of childcare facilities on a temporary basis.

We are targeting the pilot program to begin July 1, 2026, and end June 30, 2030. To accomplish this, the MSDE must (1) select a nonprofit organization to administer the program that meets specified requirements and (2) annually develop and publish goals for the program. For fiscal 2027 through 2030, the Governor must include an appropriation of \$375,000 in the annual budget bill for the program. By December 1, 2029, MSDE must report to the General Assembly on the status of the program, including (1) an evaluation of the program and (2) whether the program has met the goals set by MSDE.

After you hear the advocates testimony, I urge you to give a favorable report to this important bill.

Written Senate Bill 868.pdf

Uploaded by: RUBY DANIELS

Position: FAV



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

Written Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 868
Senate Committee: Education, Energy, and Environment Committee
March 5, 2025

Position: Favorable

Chairman and Members of the Committee,

My name is **Ruby Daniels**, and I am the President of the **Maryland State Family Child Care Association (MSFCCA)**, representing over **4,000 family childcare providers across the state**. I write today **in strong support of Senate Bill 868**, which seeks to establish the Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program to address the persistent staffing challenges faced by childcare providers.

For family childcare providers, the lack of access to qualified substitutes is one of our greatest barriers to sustainability. Unlike childcare centers, family childcare homes operate independently, often with a single provider responsible for every aspect of care. When we need to take a doctor's appointment, attend a training, or deal with a personal emergency, there are no reliable options for temporary coverage. Many providers are forced to cancel care for families, disrupting not only their income but also the working parents who rely on us.

Senate Bill 868 presents a real solution by creating a substitute provider pool—a structured, vetted network of trained childcare professionals who can temporarily step in when needed. By ensuring that substitutes meet licensing, training, and background check requirements, this program will provide peace of mind to providers, parents, and children alike.

Additionally, this bill recognizes the unique needs of different regions, ensuring that providers in rural, suburban, and urban areas have access to substitutes. The ability to match providers through a digital platform will streamline the process, allowing family childcare providers to find coverage quickly and efficiently when emergencies arise.

However, while I strongly support this initiative, I urge the committee to consider expanding access beyond the initial three regions as quickly as possible. The need for substitutes exists statewide and ensuring broader participation will maximize the impact of this program for Maryland's childcare providers and working families.

Family childcare providers are the foundation of early childhood education, offering high-quality, home-based care in a nurturing environment. To keep our businesses sustainable, we need flexibility and support, and Senate Bill 868 is a critical step forward. I respectfully urge the committee to support and advance this bill to ensure that Maryland's family childcare providers have the resources needed to continue serving families without disruption.



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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ruby Daniels

President, Maryland State Family Child Care Association (MSFCCA)

SB 868 MDAEYC FAV.docx.pdf

Uploaded by: Stephanie Schaefer

Position: FAV



Maryland Association for the Education of Young Children

Testimony in Support of SB 868
“Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program - Established”
Submitted to the Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
March 5, 2025

Position: Support

The Maryland Association for the Education of Young Children (MDAEYC) supports SB 868, which would establish the Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program. This program would help child care providers to meet their short-term staffing needs by making available a pool of qualified child care substitute providers.

MDAEYC is a professional association of 1,700 early childhood educators, allied professionals, and families. We promote high-quality early learning for all children, birth through age 8, by connecting early childhood education practice, policy, and research. We advance a diverse, dynamic early childhood profession and support all who care for, educate, and work on behalf of young children.

MDAEYC supports the creation of this substitute pool program because we know there is a great need for substitute child care providers. When child care programs do not have enough staff on a given day, they must either move administrative staff to cover a classroom on an emergency basis, or close the classroom for the day. Finding substitute coverage is especially difficult for family child care providers, who often close their programs for the days they need to be away. Having a pool of qualified substitute providers would be immensely helpful to programs when they are short-staffed.

Creating this substitute pool program as a pilot program is an appropriate approach. After the five-year pilot has obtained results, Maryland legislators, agencies and other stakeholders can review its effectiveness and determine whether it should become a permanent program.

For these reasons, MDAEYC respectfully requests a favorable report on SB 868.

If you have any questions, please contact: Stephanie Schaefer, PhD. Program Coordinator, at stephanie.schaefer@mdaeyc.org or 240-441-3280.

SB868_CFUF_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Zachary Alberts

Position: FAV



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 868

Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program – Established

TO: Hon. Brian Feldman, Chair, and Members of the EEE Committee

FROM: Zachary Alberts, Director of Advocacy

The Center for Urban Families (CFUF), a West Baltimore workforce and family-strengthening community-based organization, advocates for legislative initiatives that strengthen urban communities by helping fathers and families achieve stability and economic success.

We are pleased to support Senator Henson's SB 868, the purpose of which is to facilitate the continuous operation of childcare facilities in the State by ensuring that qualified substitute childcare providers are available to fill the short-term staffing needs of childcare facilities. During CFUF's monthly workforce development classes, we host focus groups to understand the structural barriers that the low-income, unemployed or underemployed members we serve face to workforce participation. Without fail, childcare is one of the top three issues cited each month.

CFUF members report that childcare is not only expensive but is also often unreliable. This is usually not due to any fault of the childcare provider, but instead a natural consequence of employing individuals who get sick, who take vacation, and who need professional development opportunities. When providers are understaffed, families' access is limited or altogether unavailable. The issue is compounded by the fact that when childcare is suddenly unavailable, older siblings' school attendance is often impacted as they are kept home to provide childcare. Consequently, employed parents must miss work or rely on limited favors from their family and friends. When parents work low-income jobs, their employers are rarely understanding of absences or lateness due to childcare challenges and termination can quickly follow.

Because this bill would not only advance the interests of individual families, but also expand Maryland's tax base, we urge a favorable report.

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SB0868- State Board- LOI.pdf

Uploaded by: Carey Wright

Position: INFO

TO: Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

BILL: SB 868 - Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program - Established

DATE: March 5, 2025

POSITION: Information

Chair Feldman and Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee:

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) is providing information for consideration regarding Senate Bill (SB) 868 - Substitute Child Care Provider Pool Pilot Program - Established. This legislation proposes that MSDE establish a substitute child care provider pool pilot program to facilitate the continuous operation of child care facilities by ensuring that qualified substitute child care providers are available to fill short-term staffing needs of child care facilities on a temporary basis. The bill also requires the agency to award a grant of \$350,000 to the nonprofit organization selected to administer the Program for fiscal years 2027 through 2030.

In order for a child care program to be operationally successful, the program must be adequately staffed to ensure staff/child ratios are maintained at all times. The primary staff associated with child care programs, often referred to as associated parties, consist of an operator (owner), a qualified director, and qualified child care teachers and aides, based on the ages and number of children served. For example, for a program to be approved to care for infants/toddlers, the director must meet infant/toddler qualifications, and at least one of the teachers assigned to the group of children must also meet these qualifications. It is also a mandate for all staff that have access to the children in care to receive criminal background checks along with child abuse and neglect clearances. Ultimately, the requirements for providing adequate care and supervision for the vulnerable early childhood population are vital in ensuring the health and safety of every child in care. However, the same requirements often make it difficult for programs to remain afloat when staffing issues persist at a time where there are reported shortages within the child care community.

To remedy staffing shortages within a child care program, specifically when a staff member is absent, the program can use a hired substitute (as needed) to maintain staff/child ratios and assist in the continuous operation of the program. Substitutes also have to be cleared for child care, meaning all background checks, along with child abuse and neglect clearances, are met. There are additional requirements as well, depending on the program type. For example, in regard to a child care center, a substitute child care teacher is required to be 18 years old or older, while a substitute aide is only required to be 16 years old. Nevertheless, all required documentation for substitutes must be maintained, and their usage must be logged to indicate the days on which they provided care, along with the staff member that the substitute replaced.

SB 868 intends to increase the availability of substitutes for child care programs by establishing a

substitute child care provider pool pilot program. MSDE's Licensing Branch wants to emphasize they support access to a large pool of substitute child care providers, which would minimize disruptions to child care due to teacher absences and staffing shortages, but there are programmatic concerns as to how the pilot pools will function effectively.

To start, the agency will need at least one full-time employee to oversee the grant application and selection process and then continue to monitor the grant. Additional staff would be essential as the grant and pilot program will require coordination across the entire state. This function of managing a grant across the state is typically divided into regions by multiple people.

Next, although there may be a vendor responsible for much of the work, MSDE's Licensing staff will be responsible for ensuring the individual (substitute) is completely connected to every program in their caseload. Licensing staff will also need to verify staff qualifications and background clearances. Until the full scope of this process and requirements is completed, the agency cannot fully estimate the other required needs for managing such a program and how much monitoring will be needed to do so, while maintaining the safety measures as cited in Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR).

Altogether, the substitute pool could include almost four thousand family child care providers and two thousand child care centers as well as coordination with Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) for background authorizations, the Department of Human Services (DHS) for child abuse and neglect records, and the Office of Child Care. Additionally, this would require modifications to the Child Care Administrative Tracking System (CCATS) to support managing the data for all substitutes participating in the pool.

Lastly, according to the Maryland Department of Public Safety & Correctional Services (DPSCS), this bill cannot be successfully implemented without the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) approval of an amendment to state statute 92-544, allowing non-governmental third parties to receive national background checks for child care purposes.

We request that the committee consider this information as it deliberates **SB 868**. Please contact Dr. Akilah Alleyne, Executive Director of Government Affairs, at Akilah.alleyne@maryland.gov or at 410-767-0504, if you would like any additional information.