

Letter in support of HB1122_for Senate EEE Committ

Uploaded by: Carrie Willson

Position: FAV



Carrie Willson, Executive Director • carrie.wilson@calvertlibrary.info
850 Costley Way • Prince Frederick, MD 20678 • 410-535-0291 • 301-855-1862

BILL: **HB 1122: Office of Child Care Advisory Council – Membership - Alterations** **DATE:** March 20, 2025

SUBJECT: Adding public library representation **COMMITTEE:** Education, Energy and the Environment

TESTIMONY FROM: Carrie Willson, Executive Director, Calvert Library **POSITION:** **Support**

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan and members of the Committee,

Calvert Library supports **HB 1122: Office of Child Care Advisory Council – Membership - Alterations**.

This legislation increases the maximum number of members of the Office of Child Care Advisory Council, adding a representative of the Maryland Association of Public Library Administrators to the membership of the Council.

A core mission of every public library system is providing early childhood education. Calvert Library does this via storytime classes, STEM classes and interactive play at our library locations. We also do this via our Outreach and Mobile Services visiting licensed childcare providers for storytimes and delivering library materials as well as, delivering portable storytime kits to enhance the early literacy instruction of child care providers.

A representative of the Maryland Association of Public Library Administrators on the Council would help strengthen the collaborations that already exist between public libraries and child care providers in every jurisdiction. By integrating library expertise into the Council, policymakers can ensure a more comprehensive approach to early childhood education positively impacting children, families, and child care providers across our state.

Thank you for your support for our state’s youngest learners. We ask that you **favorably recommend HB 1122** for passage.

Sincerely,

Carrie Willson, Executive Director, Calvert Library



HB 1122 final testimony support MSCCA March 20 20

Uploaded by: Christina Peusch

Position: FAV



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

Maryland State Child Care Association

2810 Carrollton Road
Annapolis, Md. 21403
Phone: (410) 820-9196
Email: info@mscca.org
www.mscca.org

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: HB 1122 Office of Child Care Advisory Council- Membership-Alterations

Submitted to: Education, Energy, and Environment Committee

March 20, 2025

Maryland State Child Care Association strongly supports HB 1122.

The Office of Child Care (OCC) Advisory Council helps shape and guide the goals and operations of the office by reviewing proposed regulations related to the care of children, recommending policy priorities, and identifying issues of importance to child care providers and consumers.

As Co-Chair of the Office of Child Care Advisory Council, MSCCA enthusiastically welcome representative for the Association of Public Library Administrators. The wealth of community engagement and resources they bring to early childhood policies and opportunities in the communities will enhance the Council. The addition of a resolute Council representative from the Maryland Association of Public Library Administrators is welcome as an expert, partner, and valuable resource.

Designating a seat for Library Administrators will ensure the Council has engagement from a trusted resource that fosters literacy development, imagination, and a love for reading. Additionally, libraries offer safe spaces for social interaction, educational programs for children and families, and a foundation for lifelong learning and resources.

Libraries provide technology and computer access, which is free to children and families allowing equal access to learning materials regardless of socioeconomic background. The addition will help the Council with their charge and enhance perspectives. Libraries also offer access to computers with high-speed internet and online resources to assist families with programs, such as the Child Care Scholarship Program applications and documentation required through online portal.

Early childhood programs can benefit from public libraries to help meet educational needs of young children and their families. Libraries offer rich learning environments with knowledgeable staff that design events and programs for young children, their families, and caregivers.

Maryland Association of Public Libraries can support the Councils work in numerous ways by sharing valuable information about resources. Libraries provide consultants on topics including extending lesson plans, aligning books with themes and curriculum.

Additionally, public libraries create strong partnerships with community organizations to reach the children most at risk. Currently the Office of Child Care Advisory Council lacks representation from the libraries and as co-chair for the Council, I recommend expanding to include libraries.

HB 1122 is no cost legislation which will yield benefits to the Office of Child Care Advisory Council's charge to recommend policy priorities and identify issues of importance to child care providers and consumers.

MSCCA requests a favorable report.

SEIU Local 500 - HB1122 - Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Elly Colmers

Position: FAV

Service Employees International Union, Local 500

HB1122

Office of Child Care Advisory Council - Membership – Alterations

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 HB1122 – **Office of Child Care Advisory Council - Membership - Alterations**. We would also like to thank the sponsor for her support of the early childhood community.

This bill seeks to enhance the work of the Office of Child Care Advisory Council. This council plays a vital role in advising and supporting the Early Childhood Development Division of the Maryland State Department of Education, ensuring that regulations affecting child care are consistent and well-coordinated across State agencies, and addressing key issues affecting the care of children in Maryland.

By reviewing and suggesting priorities, the council ensures that the needs of children and families are effectively addressed, while fostering collaboration between departments to improve child care services. This bill's proposal to increase the council's membership by adding a representative from the Maryland Association of Public Library Administrators is a thoughtful and strategic step. Libraries are essential community hubs that support early childhood development, and this addition will enhance the council's ability to consider a wider range of perspectives, ensuring that all aspects of child care, learning, and development are thoroughly represented.

With the addition of this new member, the council will be better equipped to support Maryland's children, families, and child care providers through thoughtful advice, coordination, and collaboration across agencies. I strongly support this bill and the positive impact it will have on early childhood care and development in our state.

Therefore, we request a favorable report on HB1122.

HB1122 Office of Child Care Advisory Council - Sen

Uploaded by: Janet Salazar

Position: FAV



Centreville Branch: 121 S. Commerce St., Centreville MD 21617
410.758.0980

Kent Island Branch: 200 Library Circle, Stevensville, MD 21666
410.643.8161

Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
HB 1122 – Office of Child Care Advisory Council – Membership – Alterations
March 20, 2025
Support/Favorable

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice-Chair Kagan, and members of the committee :

I am writing in support of HB 1122 – Office of Child Care Advisory Council – Membership – Alterations.

This legislation increases the maximum number of members of the Office of Child Care Advisory Council and adds a member of the Maryland Association of Public Library Administrators (MAPLA) to the membership of the Council.

Public libraries have a long relationship with our childcare communities. Public libraries offer early childhood education through our story time programs, which foster a love of reading early in a child's life and offer activities to build fine and gross motor skills, socialization, and early literacy skills. Public libraries offer collections for children to practice their reading skills. Our parenting collections offer resources to parents who need help or simply desire to know the latest in child development. Many of our families are homeschool families who use the public library as their resources for learning at all stages of their child's life. When the public schools in our county started offering preschool services, their teachers come to the public library to learn how we do story time to foster early childhood education.

The Queen Anne's County Library offers a wide variety of programming for early childhood education. Bouncing Babies (0-18 months) is our program for our youngest library users which incorporates rhymes, songs, and bounces with a story. There is also time after the program for socialization, which is important to a child's brain development and their emotional development. Toddler Story Time and Mother Goose on the Loose (18-36 months) both offer stories combined with nursery rhymes, fingerplays, songs, movement, and an early literacy activity. Preschool Story Time (3-5 year olds) incorporates stories, songs, flannel boards, fingerplays, movement, and crafts to develop early literacy skills in young children so they enter Kindergarten ready to read and learn. These programs are attended by families with young children, homeschool families, and some in-home daycares. Our library system also offers Story Time on Wheels, a program that trains volunteers to go into in-home daycares and model reading behavior and support early literacy skills with crafts.

There are many different ways a child can learn the early literacy skills they need and other early childhood education skills. For-profit preschools and child care centers offer programs. Head Start and local Judy Centers help those children who are at risk for starting school at a disadvantage. Some parents homeschool their children. The public library is there offering early childhood education to those who may not be able to afford a for-profit preschool, whose child did not make it into the public school preschool program or for those who simply choose not to send their child to a public school and take on the important task of teaching their children from home. Allowing a public librarian to be a member of the the Council ensures that all entities that work with our children to foster early childhood education skills are heard and can offer their expertise.

Queen Anne's County Library supports the passage of HB 1122, which supports the Moore/Miller administration's priority of supporting early childhood learning and caregivers.

Thank you for your consideration,



Centreville Branch: 121 S. Commerce St., Centreville MD 21617
410.758.0980

Kent Island Branch: 200 Library Circle, Stevensville, MD 21666
410.643.8161

Janet Salazar
Director

HB 1122-Office of Child Care Advisory Council - Me

Uploaded by: Megan Sutherland

Position: FAV

HB 1122 - Office of Child Care Advisory Council - Membership - Alterations
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
March 20, 2025
SUPPORT

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Committee Members:

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) strongly supports **HB 1122 - Office of Child Care Advisory Council - Membership - Alterations**. The legislation would add a member of the Maryland Association of Public Library Administrators (MAPLA) to the Office of Child Care Advisory Council. The Prince George's County Memorial Library System, as well as representatives from all 24 public library systems in Maryland, belong to the Maryland Association of Public Library Administrators.

Prince George's County Memorial Library System, like our counterparts across the state, has a strong and collaborative relationship with our community's childcare providers. This relationship is built on our shared and steadfast commitment to early education, literacy, and preparing our youngest learners for success in Kindergarten. Our library is a valuable resource to childcare providers, giving them access to thousands of books, hundreds of early literacy programs, and services geared toward their specific needs. PGCMLS staff provide professional development training to licensed childcare providers on the Every Child Ready to Read curriculum so they can engage their young learners in talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing to support their pre-reading development. PGCMLS staff conduct onsite "Lunch and Learns" at childcare centers to support their early literacy initiatives.

Public libraries also support the business needs of childcare providers through one-on-one appointments with librarians, access to business resources, tools, and networking opportunities. A representative of the Maryland Association of Public Library Administrators on the Council would help strengthen these collaborations, ensuring that childcare providers have continued access to high-quality, research-based materials and programming.

There are an estimated 60,000 children under the age of five in Prince George's County. PGCMLS is proud to support their learning in many ways, including our collaboration with childcare providers. As such, **PGCMLS supports the passage of HB 1122 - Office of Child Care Advisory Council - Membership - Alterations** to strengthen this interdisciplinary cooperation.

Sincerely,



Mark Winston, Ph. D. CEO

SMCL-1122 Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Michael Blackwell

Position: FAV



3/18/2025

Testimony in support of Legislation: **HB 1122, Office of Child Care Advisory Council - Membership – Alterations**

Hearing before the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

Submitted by Michael Blackwell, St. Mary's County Library Director

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

I am writing to express support for HB 1122: Office of Child Care Advisory Council - Membership – Alterations, which has now passed over to the Senate.

This legislation increases the maximum number of members of the Office of Child Care Advisory Council, adding a representative of the Maryland Association of Public Library Administrators (MAPLA) to the membership of the Council.

Public libraries provide vital resources for all ages and interests. We support early childhood education and learning; we are perfect partners with early childhood educators and child care providers. Including a representative from MAPLA will help the Council's support and guide policies that enhance learning throughout Maryland.

Libraries provide critical resources and programming to support young learners, caregivers, and child care providers. Our literacy classes, interactive story times, STEM initiatives, and access to an array of print and electronic educational materials foster school readiness and lifelong learning. Our input will can add valuable contributions to ensure a comprehensive approach to early childhood education.

Many child care professionals rely on public libraries for professional development materials, business resources, and networking opportunities. A MAPLA on the Council would help strengthen these collaborations, ensuring that child care providers have continued access to high-quality materials and programming.

This bill is funding neutral but will strengthen your commitment to supporting early childhood learning and caregivers, building stronger partnerships, enhancing policy discussions, and helping young learners thrive. Thank you for your support for those learners. We ask that you favorably support this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Blackwell", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michael Blackwell, Director, St. Mary's County Library

Administrative Offices 23630 Hayden Farm Lane Leonardtwn, MD 20650 301-475-2151 FAX: 301-884-4415 info@stmalib.org	Charlotte Hall Library 37600 New Market Road Charlotte Hall, MD 20622 301-884-2211 FAX: 301-884-2113	Leonardtwn Library 23630 Hayden Farm Lane Leonardtwn, MD 20650 301-475-2846 FAX: 301-884-4415	Lexington Park Library 21677 FDR Blvd Lexington Park, MD 20653 301-863-8188 FAX: 301-863-2550
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HB 1122 - Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Thomas Vose

Position: FAV



Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair
Senator Cheryl C. Kagan, Vice-Chair
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

March 18, 2025

Dear Senator Feldman, Senator Kagan, and members of the Committee:

I would like to express my support for crossover bill **HB 1122: Office of Child Care Advisory Council - Membership - Alterations**, which would give a representative from the library world a voice on the Council, to its benefit.

Reducing child poverty and improving early childhood education are both critical goals for the betterment of Maryland as a whole. Libraries' mission is to assist with both - that mission, and our ubiquity throughout the State makes us invaluable partners. Being as we are dedicated to fostering early childhood literacy, and with the flexibility and resources to greatly empower such efforts, we can provide significant assistance as well as a boots-on-the-ground perspective. All we ask for is a chance to help.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support of Maryland's libraries.

Sincerely,

Thomas Vose
Director, Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County

HB1122_Senate_Howard.pdf

Uploaded by: Tonya Aikens

Position: FAV



Testimony in support of HB 1122: Office of Child Care Advisory Council - Membership - Alterations
Hearing before the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
March 20, 2025
Submitted by Tonya Aikens, Howard County Library System President & CEO

Good afternoon, Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Distinguished Members of the Committee:

I am Tonya Aikens, President and CEO of Howard County Library System. I thank the bill sponsor and thank you for the opportunity to express support for HB 1122.

Howard County Library System, as well as representatives from all 24 public library systems in Maryland, belong to the Maryland Association of Public Library Administrators. Howard County, like our counterparts across the state, has a strong collaborative relationship with our community's childcare providers. Central to this relationship is our shared commitment to early education, literacy, and preparing our youngest learners for kindergarten.

As the first public classroom for many children, public libraries aid in positively shaping high-quality early childhood experiences. Libraries offer a robust range of early learning programs and services, tailored to the specific needs of the learner and childcare provider.

Howard County Library System staff provide professional development training to early childhood licensed childcare providers, including on the Every Child Ready to Read curriculum to aid providers in engaging their young learners in talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing to support their pre-reading development.

Public libraries also support the business needs of childcare providers through one-on-one appointments with librarians, access to business resources, tools, and networking opportunities.

Integrating library expertise into the Council will significantly enhance the Council's ability to support and guide policies that impact children, families, and childcare providers across our state by leveraging the valuable expertise of librarians.

This bill supports our shared priorities to set Maryland's students up for success and to help end childhood poverty through a stronger and more strategic childcare ecosystem.

Thank you for your support for our state's youngest learners. We respectfully request a favorable report for HB 1122.

MyMGA written response.pdf

Uploaded by: Deserie Mowlds

Position: UNF

Greetings,

I am against this bill. If this bill passes, I will have to make it a priority to not vote in a democrat on the next election.

How sad that the government is doing its best to be irresponsible with taxpayers dollars, health and welfare. Nauseating to consider how they are putting children in danger. Disgusting to see all the additional fees, taxes and tolls that Maryland is considering verses balancing the budget with less spending and not allowing the teachers union to run our government.

As a retiree, I am considering moving from Maryland due to the poor leadership of our State legislators.

Please pay attention to what the people want.

Deserie Mowlds