

CORY V. MCCRAY
Legislative District 45
Baltimore City

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Budget and Taxation Committee

Subcommittees

Chair, Health and Human Services

Vice Chair, Capital Budget

Executive Nominations Committee

Legislative Policy Committee

Joint Committee on Gaming Oversight



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Vote Yes On Senate Resolution 1

Bill Title: Ratifying the Federal Child Labor Amendment

Committee: Finance

Hearing Date: January 22, 2025

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I write to you in support of Senate Joint Resolution 1, a monumental step toward reaffirming the federal Child Labor Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, as originally proposed by House Joint Resolution 184 of 1924. This resolution is not merely a formality; it represents a moral and legal imperative to protect the most vulnerable members of our society—our children—from exploitation in the workforce.

In the years since the federal proposal was first introduced, there has been a troubling rise in child labor violations across various states, many of which erode the hard-won protections for youth. Senate Joint Resolution 1 offers Maryland the opportunity to correct a historic oversight and to join a growing chorus of states calling for the ratification of this essential amendment. By granting Congress the explicit power to regulate and limit the labor of minors, we ensure that the labor market will not undermine the health, safety, and educational opportunities of our youth.

The necessity of this amendment is underscored by the documented weakening of child labor laws and the increasingly dangerous trends toward deregulation in some parts of the nation. If Maryland is to be a beacon of justice and fairness, we must act decisively. Ratifying this amendment is not only an investment in the protection of children's rights but also a reaffirmation of our state's commitment to upholding the principles of human dignity and opportunity for all.

I urge this committee to support Senate Joint Resolution 1 with the full weight of its authority. This resolution offers us the chance to correct an injustice and to safeguard the future of every child in America.

Continued Blessings,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cory V. McCray', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cory V. McCray
45th District