

HB 911

Greetings chair and vice chair,

My name is Molly McGriff. I am the Sr Director of United for Childcare with the United Way of Central Maryland. My testimony is in support of House Bill 911.

Family Child Care is an important part of our childcare ecosystem, but it is getting squeezed out of the marketplace. Home-based Family Child Care can be closer to home, offer more flexible hours, be more culturally responsive, and on average, is more affordable.

Other states prevent landlords from discriminating against licensed Family Child Care. I worked in child care support and licensing in New York State for 11.5 years. In New York, Family Child Care has a residential designation that limits landlords from evicting or punishing tenants for operating licensed child care. Maryland should absolutely do the same.

Family Child Care programs provide high quality early care and education. They meet high licensing standards set by MSDE. Maryland faces a childcare crisis, there are not enough spots for our youngest children. Family Child Care cannot be overlooked.

HB 911 is a simple fix that will strengthen the childcare system. I ask that you support HB 911.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.