

Dear the Members of the Judiciary Committee,

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with Out for Justice. I am a resident of District 8. **I am testifying in support of HB0275: Child Support Multifamily Adjustment.**



Showing Up for Racial Justice

I have volunteered with Out For Justice, an organization that is led by individuals impacted by the legal system, for many years. Many of the wonderful, amazing members struggle to support themselves and their families, including children who do not live with them full time and others who do. Blended families are particularly common in communities where fathers and mothers have been removed from their children's lives due to incarceration and struggling with other life issues. It only prevents justice-impacted individuals from getting to the next step in life when they have to choose between which children they can support, especially when they are getting back on their feet and struggling to make ends meet. Courts should take situations like this into consideration.

HB0275 would mandate that the court considering a child support award consider any children in the household of the payor, and grant an allowance for such children in their calculations. This will not only lead to more equitable results, it will increase the likelihood of consistent and full child support payments.

It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to **vote in support of HB0275: Child Support-Multifamily Adjustment.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Badeker  
3020 Linwood Avenue, Parkville MD 21234  
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore