



House Ways and Means Committee
HB 1122 – Office of Child Care Advisory Council – Membership - Alterations
March 3, 2025

Dear Chair Atterbeary, Vice-Chair Wilkins, and Distinguished Members of the Committee:

I am writing in **Support of HB 1122 – Office of Child Care Advisory Council – Membership - Alterations**

One of the core missions of public libraries is supporting early childhood education and learning. This makes public libraries perfect partners for early childhood educators and childcare providers. Including a representative from the Maryland Association of Public Library Administrators will significantly enhance the Council's ability to support and guide policies that impact children, families, and childcare providers across our state.

Public libraries provide critical resources and programming that support young learners, caregivers, and childcare providers. Libraries offer a range of early learning services, including literacy classes, interactive story times, STEM initiatives, and access to an array of print and electronic educational materials that foster school readiness and lifelong learning. By integrating library expertise into the Council, policymakers can leverage these valuable contributions to ensure a more comprehensive approach to early childhood education.

This bill represents a view of early childhood education that includes a vital component of the public education infrastructure, public libraries. It also aligns directly with the Moore-Miller administration's commitment to supporting early childhood learning and caregivers.

Thank you for all you have done and all that you continue to do to support Maryland children.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Hulett

Director

Western Maryland Regional Library
Hagerstown, Maryland