

Testimony in Support of Maryland HB1475

Presented by Celebree Schools

March 7, 2025

Honorable Members of the House Committee,

On behalf of Celebree Schools, a leading provider of early childhood education across Maryland, I am writing to express our strong support for HB1475. As an organization dedicated to "Growing People Big and Small," we believe this legislation is a crucial step toward strengthening the early childhood education system in our state and ensuring that all children enter kindergarten prepared to thrive.

A key strength of HB1475 is its commitment to fostering a robust mixed delivery system by creating mechanisms for analyzing and reporting critical information to ensure its success. By promoting collaboration between public and private early education providers, this bill lays the groundwork for a comprehensive approach that leverages the strengths of diverse programs. Through data collection and transparent reporting, HB1475 will provide the insights needed to identify gaps, measure program effectiveness, and make informed policy decisions that benefit children and families alike.

At Celebree Schools, we have witnessed firsthand the transformative impact of high-quality early education. Our commitment to fostering each child's cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development drives our approach — one built on personalized learning and holistic growth. HB1475 aligns with these values by promoting increased investment in early learning and effectively expanding access to quality programs for Maryland's youngest learners.

This bill's emphasis on creating equitable opportunities for children of all backgrounds is especially important. Research consistently shows that high-quality early education helps close achievement gaps, setting children on a path toward lifelong success. By supporting HB1475, Maryland can take meaningful action to ensure every child, regardless of their zip code or family circumstances, receives the strong foundation they deserve.

Moreover, investing in early childhood education strengthens our communities and our economy. Families benefit when they have access to safe, nurturing, and academically enriching environments for their children. Businesses benefit when parents can fully participate in the workforce, confident that their children are receiving quality care and education. And most importantly, children benefit from the developmental support needed to become confident, curious, and capable learners.

In closing, Celebree Schools urges you to vote in favor of HB1475. By doing so, you will affirm Maryland's commitment to early childhood education and take a vital step toward building a brighter future for all our children. We stand ready to support the implementation of this legislation and work collaboratively toward its success.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Kristen Miller
Director of Education
Celebree Schools