



**Local power, collective voice
for Maryland's children, youth and families**

March 11, 2026

SUPPORT – HB1490 - Family Investment Program - Temporary Cash Assistance - Good Cause and Adequate Reason Exceptions

Dear Delegates:

On behalf of the Maryland Association of Local Management Boards, I am writing in support of **HB1490 - Family Investment Program - Temporary Cash Assistance - Good Cause and Adequate Reason Exceptions** to prohibit the Department of Human Services from denying an application or reducing or terminating temporary cash assistance from an individual if the individual has good cause or an adequate reason for noncooperation with child support under certain criteria. These good causes include temporary illness, temporary incarceration, domestic violence, and experiencing homelessness.

Local Management Boards in each county and jurisdiction in the State of Maryland work in low income neighborhoods to address the needs of children and families in their respective jurisdiction. We work with families who are experiencing difficulties like homelessness, domestic violence, and incarceration. Families experiencing these hardships do not need a denial or a reduction in the cash assistance they are receiving. There are very few safety net programs, and we need to ensure families are able to access them.

We urge you to support HB1490 - Family Investment Program - Temporary Cash Assistance - Good Cause and Adequate Reason Exceptions to allow exceptions for denial or reducing temporary case assistance for families experiencing temporary incarceration, domestic violence, and homelessness.

Sincerely,

Pamela M. Brown, PhD
Chair