



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

February 25, 2025

SUPPORT – SB0776 - Commission on the House of Reformation and Instruction for Colored Children - Establishment

Dear Senators:

On behalf of the Maryland Association of Local Management Boards, I am writing in support of **SB0776 - Commission on the House of Reformation and Instruction for Colored Children - Establishment** to establish the Commission on the House of Reformation and Instruction for Colored Children to research the history, operations, and resident deaths at the House of Reformation and Instruction for Colored Children and provide a complete and public accounting of the children who died and were buried on the grounds. The State of Maryland needs to shed light on the history of this facility.

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 focus on low income communities in our work, and have established, using data, that there is a geography and color to poverty in the state. Many of our children and families, and their local communities, have been harmed by historically racist policies and practices. This commission will be the start of justice for the children at the House of Reformation and Instruction for Colored Children.

We urge you to support SUPPORT – SB0776 - Commission on the House of Reformation and Instruction for Colored Children - Establishment to research the history and operations that impacted Black children in our state.

Sincerely,

Pamela M. Brown, PhD
Chair