

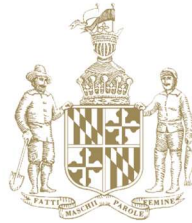
PAUL D. CORDERMAN
Legislative District 2
Frederick and Washington Counties

Budget and Taxation Committee

Subcommittees

Capital Budget

Education, Business and Administration



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 26, 2026

Senate Judicial Proceedings
Chair William C. Smith, Jr.
Vice Chair Jeff Waldstreicher
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Testimony In Support of SB 711 - Family Law - Child Neglect Definition - Alteration

Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to present Senate Bill 711. SB 711 expands the definition of child neglect under Maryland law to include a parent's or caregiver's failure or refusal to provide a child with the education required by law. In doing so, it adds educational neglect to the existing forms of neglect recognized in statute.

Recognizing educational neglect in statute is important because consistent school attendance is fundamental to a child's development, safety, and long-term well-being. Clarifying that access to education is a basic responsibility helps ensure that children receive the support and oversight necessary to prevent long-term academic harm and related social consequences.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill, and we respectfully request a favorable report on SB 711.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. D. Corderman".

Senator Paul D. Corderman – District 2, Washington & Frederick Counties