



## May 9, 2018 Public Policy Committee Meeting Summary

### **Counting Our Losses**

Last month, MFN announced the release of a new report [Counting Our Losses](#)-- a look at the cost of child care breakdowns to businesses and Maryland's economy. This month's meeting featured a full discussion of the report, led by authors Elizabeth Talbert and Dr. Ali Bustamante. The report identifies how child care issues affect the working lives of parents with children age 5 and under in Maryland, and measures the economic impact of disruptions due to child care on employers and the state.

The full report, a one-page summary, and the authors' presentation can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2FVUbws>

### **Legislative Update**

On May 8 the Governor signed a number of MFN priorities into law including:

- SB 379 / HB 430 "Education – Child Care Subsidies – Mandatory Funding Levels"
- HB 1415 "Education – Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education"
- SB 373 / HB 547 "Education – Head Start Program – Annual Funding (The Ulysses Currie Act)"
- SB 912 / HB 1685 "Maryland Prenatal and Infant Care Coordination Services Grant Program Fund (Thrive by Three Fund)"

(Subsequent to the Public Policy Committee meeting, on May 15, the Governor also signed SB 859 "State Employees – Parental Leave" – also a top MFN priority.)

### **Other Announcements & Future Meetings**

The next meeting of the Public Policy Committee will be on June 13 at 1:00 at Maryland Family Network.

