

MARYLAND FAMILY NETWORK "Early Childhood Development -Child Care Scholarship Program - Funding" HB 495 / SB 350

## Please Support HB 495 / SB 350

Maryland child care costs continue to rise for parents and providers. At the same time, child care providers across the state have been closing their doors at record numbers.

HB 495/SB 350 will protect Maryland's critical investments in child care. It will help rebuild Maryland's child care capacity and support families by making child care more affordable. This means parents can get back to work, providers can have more stability, and children can get the highquality care they need.

This legislation will make families, businesses, & Maryland stronger. Here's how:



## More Children Getting a Strong Start

Guaranteeing funding so that **all families** who are eligible can receive child care scholarships **with no waiting lists.** This means more children will get the strong start they need to succeed.



## More Parents Going Back to Work

Maintaining the income eligibility level so that families with up to **75% of State Median Income** (\$90,033 for a family of four) qualify for a child care subsidy. This keeps parents earning and children learning.



## More Businesses on Firm Footing

Keeping the child care provider reimbursement rate at **70 percent** of the market rate (based on the latest market rate survey) means child care businesses will have income they can rely on.



**Eliminating the co-payment** for most parents leaves more money in the pockets of working families who need it most.

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