



HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES

9830 Patuxent Woods Drive ■ Columbia, Maryland 21046 ■ 410-313-6400 voice/relay

Jacqueline R. Scott, Director
communityresources@howardcountymd.gov

FAX 410-313-6424

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Howard County Council
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

Dear Council Members:

On behalf of the Department of Community Resources and Services (DCRS), I am pleased to submit testimony regarding County Code Subtitle 3 – Local Children’s Board; Section 12.301.(c)(2)(ii) – Membership of the Board.

Local Management Boards (LMBs) were established in 1992 by the Governor’s Office. There is a functioning LMB in every jurisdiction including Baltimore City; The Local Children’s Board is Howard County’s LMB. The core function of LMBs is to assess needs, create a community plan, identify gaps in funding while balancing local needs with state-level priorities. The Local Children’s Board is charged with ensuring the implementation of a local interagency service delivery system for children, youth, and families.

The Local Children’s Board is comprised of a mix of public and private members that include ex-officio members without term limits and private members with three-year term limits, some of which are Key organizations representing a significant sector of the Howard County community. We are seeking the following designations to be added to code:

- A Designated Agency representing the immigrant population
- A Designated Agency representing CASA – Court Appointed Special Advocates for youth in foster care
- A Designated Anti-Poverty Organization
- Howard Community College – Quasi-government

The proposed changes would allow the Board to continue creating an effective system of services, supports, and opportunities that improve outcomes for all children, youth, and families. Local partnerships will be built to coordinate services within the county to eliminate fragmentation and duplication of services. And finally, the Board will influence efficient allocation of resources across systems as necessary to accomplish positive outcomes for the community.

Fiscal Impact. There is no fiscal impact to this legislation.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Jacqueline Scott

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Jacqueline R. Scott, JD, M.L.
Director

The Department of Community Resources and Services provides vital human services through its offices of ADA Coordination, Aging and Independence, Children and Families, Community Partnerships, Consumer Protection, Disability Services, Human Trafficking Prevention, the Local Children’s Board, and Veterans and Military Families.