



# Joining Voices

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PRINCE GEORGE'S AND ANNE  
ARUNDEL COUNTIES

MARCH 21, 2023

# Funding for programs/providers and families

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Bonuses – the extension of work that was approved a year ago

**Status:** payments are rolling out now?



Stabilization grants – new idea for monthly payments to providers

**Status:** challenged by the price tag? (insert commentary about cost of inaction)



Keeping the recent gains – payment rates at 70<sup>th</sup> percentile, family eligibility, no freeze on waiting list

**Status:** Senate bill “crossed over”



State budget

**Due to be complete/agreed upon by House and Senate:** April 3

# PreK teachers in Maryland

Several bills in the Maryland House and Senate, and leadership from the Governor's office

Intention: alternative pathways to certification, to value the workforce we have and address the early childhood educator shortage

Background on this: <https://www.childresource.org/happening-now-pathways-for-prek-teachers/>

## **Situation now:**

- HB 1219 “crossed over” to the Senate but changed to take away the alt. pathways language
- SB 893 and Senator energy needed to stay strong for preK success and your success

# Maryland State Delegates and Senators need to *continue* to hear from us

- Strong state budget for child care (no cuts!)
- sustaining scholarship policies
- alternative pathways for preK educators
- stabilization grants
- bonus payments promised a year ago

You can read more about any of these bills on our blog:

<https://www.childresource.org/category/blog/>

If you aren't sure how to contact your State Delegates and Senators, here are the easy steps to finding out:

<https://www.childresource.org/looking-up-your-maryland-state-senator-and-maryland-state-delegates/>

# Action steps

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1

Email your Maryland State Senators and State Delegates – sample email ready to go right now!

2

If you can, attend MFN's Public Policy Committee meeting Wednesday, March 22 at 10 AM!

<https://act.marylandfamilynetwork.org/march22publicpolicy>

Or read our email notes right afterward with any new updates and action steps!