

STATE OF DELAWARE STATE COUNCIL FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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The Honorable John Carney, Governor John McNeal, Director SCPD

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 27, 2023

TO: All Members of the Delaware State Senate

and House of Representatives

FROM: Mr. Benjamin Shrader, Chairperson

State Council for Persons with Disabilities

RE: SB 59 (An Act to Establish a Statewide Rate for Purchase of Care)

The State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) has reviewed SB 59 which seeks to require DHSS to set a statewide purchase of care rate that is tied to the New Castle County Rate determined by the 2021 Delaware Local Child Care Market Rate Survey¹.

SCPD has the following observations:

- Many parents with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities utilize the POC program to get subsidized childcare, to support work and after school care.
- The rate should be tied to recent rate study with a commitment to adjust per periodical rate reviews.

¹ https://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dss/files/2021DelawareChildCareMarketRateSurvey.pdf

<u>SCPD endorses this legislation</u>, as well as the Governor's other initiatives to address childcare costs and access, as well as the expansion of the Early Childhood Assistance Program.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact SCPD if you have any questions or comments regarding our position or observations on the proposed legislation.

cc: Ms. Laura Waterland, Esq.
Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens
Developmental Disabilities Council

SB 59 Statewide Rate for Purchase of Care 3-27-23