

MARY L. WASHINGTON, PH.D
Legislative District 43
Baltimore City

Education, Health, and
Environmental Affairs Committee

Chair
Joint Committee on Ending
Homelessness

Chair
Joint Committee on Children,
Youth, and Families



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SB 870 – Baltimore City Youth Data Hub - Establishment
Testimony of Senator Mary Washington
March 31, 2022

Dear Chair Atterbary, Vice Chair Washington, and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

I respectfully urge you to vote favorable on SB 870, which has been requested on behalf of Mayor Brandon Scott of Baltimore City.

SB 870 would establish a Youth Data Hub (“The Hub”) for Baltimore City. The Hub is an integrated data system, linking anonymous data across youth-serving organizations into a system subject to community oversight and strict guidelines. The goal is to improve quality of life outcomes for all of our City’s youth. The Hub is a partnership between the City, City Schools, and nonprofits that are currently collecting data on City youth but cannot legally share the data they are collecting – even though they are all supporting the same youth.

SB 870 legally allows for that data exchange and establishes a safe, secure, anonymized way of sharing that data in one centralized location. All potential identifying information will be removed to protect the privacy of the individuals. The bill allows for a more comprehensive and unified approach to addressing the complexities and inequities in the delivery of services, resources, and opportunities for the City’s youth.

This hub has been years in the making and promises to use data to more effectively and equitably meet the needs of youth in the community. For these reasons, I ask for your favorable report on Senate Bill 870.

In Partnership,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mary Washington".

Senator Mary Washington
Maryland 43rd District

