

My name is Rich Biedrzycki. While I am a member of Strong Towns DC, this comment is made as a resident of downtown Bethesda and does not represent the opinion of Strong Towns DC.

I support Bill 21-25. The cost of childcare in Montgomery County is astronomical. For many families, it exceeds the cost of their mortgages and rent. Because of this, many families have to make tough financial choices to do what is best for their children. This is particularly harmful for single parents who may not have any other option. It also disproportionately harms the career prospects of working women, often forcing them to decide between their careers or their families. Our residents shouldn't be forced to make these decisions. By increasing the tax credit and expanding eligibility to large family child care homes, this will reduce operational costs for childcare providers. Through these cost reductions, we should hopefully see decreases in childcare costs and give families more choice.

I would like to thank Council President Stewart for introducing this legislation and Councilmembers Albornoz, Jawando, Friedson, Katz, Glass, and Sayles for co-sponsoring. I look forward to a swift passage of this bill.