



Maryland Occupational Therapy Association

PO Box 36401, Towson, Maryland 21286 ♦ motamembers.org

Committee:	House Health and Governmental Operations Committee
Bill Number:	House Bill 1082 - Public Health - Consumer Health Information - Hub and Requirements
Hearing Date:	March 9, 2022
Position:	Support

The Maryland Occupational Therapy Association (MOTA) supports *House Bill 1082 – Public Health – Consumer Health Information – Hub and Requirements*. The legislation recognizes that the University of Maryland Herschel S. Horowitz Center for Health Literacy is the State’s Consumer Health Information Hub.

MOTA supports this effort because of our work on ensuring families can utilize insurance coverage for habilitative services for their children. We participated on workgroup with the Maryland Insurance Administration in identifying barriers for families in securing enough coverage to ensure their children’s needs were addressed. While many families have insurance coverage for habilitative services, they often did not know about the coverage or how to utilize the coverage, especially since many families need to go out-of-network for services. As a result of the workgroup, the Maryland General Assembly enacted legislation requiring the Maryland Insurance Administration to produce the “Parents’ Guide to Habilitative Services.” We believe this guide has been successful in supporting families, but we think its success could be enhanced by experts in health literacy. Therefore, we support this legislation.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Scott Tiffin at stiffin@policypartners.net or (443) 350-1325.