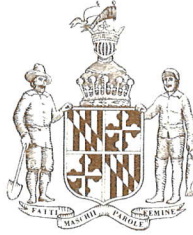


PAMELA G. BEIDLE  
Legislative District 32  
Anne Arundel County

Finance Committee

*Vice Chair*

Executive Nominations Committee



James Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street, Room 202  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3593 · 301-858-3593  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3593  
Pamela.Beidle@senate.state.md.us

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 9, 2023

**SB 230**  
**Residential Service Agencies – Employee Registry**

Good Afternoon, Chair Griffith, Vice Chair Klausmeier, and Members of Finance;

Thank you for the opportunity to present SB 230, Residential Service Agencies – Employee Registry. SB 230 establishes a homecare worker registry through the Department of Aging. It requires all residential service agencies to provide name, address, title, and training and certification of all individuals who work for the agency. Agencies will submit this information and it will be updates quarterly.

Over 30,000 individuals are currently waiting for home care services, we have the 3<sup>rd</sup> longest waitlist on the Medicaid Waiver for Home and Community Based Services. This highlights the rising need for home care services in the state. Maryland is facing a **care gap**: there is a projected need for 40% more homecare workers by 2024 however, we do not know what our existing workforce looks like. In order to address this care gap, the home care registry would collect the vital workforce data that our state agencies and policy makers will use to see that our workforce adequately meets the needs of Marylanders.

As Maryland's aging population grows by 40% by 2030, those who need home care services will continue to rise and have diverse needs such as Dementia, Alzheimer's, Developmental Disability, or Behavioral health challenges. From 2014 to 2024, Maryland will need nearly 40% more direct service workers.

My personal experience with family members who rely on home care services pushes me to advocate for our state to be at the forefront of supporting the home care work force so that families across the state can rest better knowing their loved ones are in good hands. Establishing a home care worker registry is one important step to address the care gap and build a strong care infrastructure in Maryland.

We do have some amendments to the bill that have been provided to the Committee, removing the lines 19 thru 24 on page 2 due to privacy reasons.

I respectfully request a favorable report on SB 230.