



Maryland Occupational Therapy Association

PO Box 36401, Towson, Maryland 21286 ♦ mota-members.com

Committee:	Senate Finance Committee
Bill Number:	Senate Bill 859
Title:	State Department of Education - Division of Rehabilitation Services - Funding
Hearing Date:	February 21, 2024
Position:	Support

The Maryland Occupational Therapy Association (MOTA) supports *Senate Bill 859 – Division of Rehabilitation Services*. The bill authorizes the Governor to include an increase in the General Fund appropriation in the annual budget to meet the state match amount required for the Division of Rehabilitation Services (the Division) to receive full federal funding.

Occupational therapists in Maryland regularly work with clients receiving support through the Division. One of the biggest programs run by the Division is the Public Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program which provides vocational and rehabilitative services to individuals with disabilities. The majority of the Division is funded by federal dollars but in order for Maryland to get the full funding available, the state must provide the appropriate matching amount. This bill will ensure that Maryland is consistently meeting the federal match so that this important program is receiving its full funding.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Michael Paddy at mpaddy@policypartners.net.