

MICHELE GUYTON
Legislative District 42B
Baltimore County

Environment and Transportation
Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 304
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3793 · 301-858-3793
800-492-7122 Ext. 3793
Michele.Guyton@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 20, 2024

Favorable – HB 60
Rehabilitation Services – Disability - Definition

Dear Chair Feldman and Members of the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee,

I respectfully request your consideration and favorable report on HB60 to repeal antiquated and offensive language defining disability from Maryland Law. This bill specifically replaces the term “defect” with “impairment” to bring the Maryland Division of Rehabilitation Services definition in line with accepted definitions in other areas of the Education code and to update it to align with the 1973 Rehabilitation Act and Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. As this committee has heard from me in the past few years, the DORS is responsible for working primarily in job training for students and adults with disabilities in Maryland and has had few changes in the statute governing it for almost 100 years.

I hope that this Committee will recognize the power of language to influence the success of our mission to gainfully employ people with disabilities and decide to modernize the Maryland code and provide a favorable report on HB60.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Delegate Michele Guyton".

Delegate Michele Guyton