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**Written Testimony**  
**House Bill 822 - Maryland Medical Assistance Program -**  
**Employed Individuals With Disabilities**  
**Health and Government Operations Committee – March 6, 2024**  
**Support**

**Background:** House Bill 822 would require the Maryland Department of Health to provide Maryland Medical Assistance Program services for qualified applicants who are at least 16 years old and for existing Program recipients under the Employed Individuals with Disabilities Program.

**Written Comments:** The Baltimore Jewish Council represents The Associated: Jewish Federation of Baltimore and all of its agencies. This includes the Jewish Connection Network, which has an entire department dedicated to ensuring that every member of our community, regardless of their background or abilities, can fully embrace Jewish life.

Millions of individuals with disabilities depend on a wide variety of public benefits for financial support. It is imperative that those under the IED program are also eligible for medical financial support, as many are disqualified from receiving Medicaid due to work earnings. By establishing more structured guidelines for the application and qualification process, you are helping the disability community have the opportunity to thrive.

**For these reasons, the Baltimore Jewish Council asks for a favorable report on HB822.**

*The Baltimore Jewish Council, a coalition of central Maryland Jewish organizations and congregations, advocates at all levels of government, on a variety of social welfare, economic and religious concerns, to protect and promote the interests of The Associated Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore, its agencies and the Greater Baltimore Jewish community.*