

## Maryland Senior Citizens Action Network

## MSCAN

AARP Maryland

Alzheimer's Association, Maryland Chapters

Baltimore Jewish Council

Catholic Charities

Central Maryland Ecumenical Council

Church of the Brethren

Episcopal Diocese of Maryland

Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County

Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington

Lutheran Office on Public Policy in Maryland

Maryland Association of Area Agencies on Aging

Maryland Catholic Conference

Mental Health Association of Maryland

Mid-Atlantic LifeSpan

National Association of Social Workers, Maryland Chapter

Presbytery of Baltimore

The Coordinating Center

MSCAN Co-Chairs: Carol Lienhard Sarah Miicke 410-542-4850

## Testimony in Support of HB1263 - Assisted Living Programs - Assisted Living Referrers - Requirements and Prohibitions Health and Government Operations Committee March 7, 2024

The Maryland Senior Citizens Action Network (MSCAN) is a statewide coalition of advocacy groups, service providers, faith-based and mission-driven organizations that supports policies that meet the housing, health and quality of care needs of Maryland's low and moderate-income seniors.

**MSCAN enthusiastically supports HB1263** for its potential to positively impact the lives of low-income seniors who deserve quality insured, safe and transparent assisted living referral agencies.

HB1263 would set clear rules for how referral agencies can operate, promoting client safety and consumer protection. This would include background checks for their employees, transparency regarding contractual relationships between referrer and client, and a prohibition of referrers requesting payment for referrals made more than 1 year ago. These regulations would lower incidents of older adults, especially our most vulnerable, being taken advantage by predatory referral agencies.

For these reasons, MSCAN urges a favorable report on HB1263.