



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

BILL: House Bill 509 - Developmental Disabilities - Community Providers - Federal Participation for Local Funds

SPONSOR: Delegate Kaiser

HEARING DATE: February 14, 2024

COMMITTEE: Health and Government Operations

CONTACT: Intergovernmental Affairs Office, 301-780-8411

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Office of the Prince George's County Executive **SUPPORTS HB 509**, which requiring the Maryland Department of Health to develop a process to receive federal financial participation for the payment of county or municipal general funds appropriated to community providers that serve individuals with developmental disabilities and will require the Department to allocate the federal financial participation to the community providers to areas where these services are offered.

Developmental disability care and services in communities are primarily covered through a state and federal funding partnership. These are indispensable resources for community members that rely on these services. In some instances, though, the county governments fund these services with allocations from the local general fund. As the funding has primarily been the responsibility of the state and federal government for disability services, when a county steps in to cover a gap or fulfill a need, they currently are not able to couple those costs with eligible federal funds.

Prince George's County appreciates the recognition of these local investments and the ability this bill provides to recover costs that are eligible for reimbursement when the state is funding them. This bill will ensure federal funding is available to supplement the investments being made by county governments in this area.

For the reasons stated above, the Office of the Prince George's County Executive **SUPPORTS House Bill 509** and asks for a **FAVORABLE** report.