



Maryland Occupational Therapy Association

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

Committee: House Ways and Means Committee

Bill Number: House Bill 60

Title: Rehabilitation Services - Disability – Definition

Hearing Date: February 7, 2024

Position: Support

The Maryland Occupational Therapy Association (MOTA) supports House Bill 60 - Rehabilitation Services - Disability – Definition. This bill alters the definition of “disability” for the purposes of identifying individuals eligible for rehabilitative services. This bill updates the definition.

Occupational therapists play a crucial role in providing rehabilitative services to individuals with disabilities. However, the current definition of "disability" may not accurately capture the diverse range of individuals who could benefit from these services. Many occupational therapists support the idea of altering the definition of "disability" for the purposes of identifying individuals eligible for rehabilitative services. By broadening the definition to include a wider spectrum of physical and mental impairments, occupational therapists can ensure that individuals who may have previously been overlooked or excluded are able to access the necessary support and services they need to improve their quality of life and achieve their full potential. This shift in the definition would ultimately enable occupational therapists to reach and assist more individuals in need, leading to greater overall societal well-being and inclusion.

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