



The Arc Maryland
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SB 208: Human Services – Maryland
Assistive Technology Program –
Establishment

January 29, 2025
Position: Support

The Arc Maryland is the largest statewide advocacy organization dedicated to protecting and advancing the rights and quality of life of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Maryland Assistive Technology Program (MDTAP) is **highly valued** by people throughout the state who are affiliated with The Arc Maryland.

MDTAP is operated by the Maryland Department of Disabilities to provide help to individuals in need of tech for independence. MDTAP services support access to assistive technology (AT) devices, and provide AT demonstrations, short-term device loans, trainings, presentations, information and assistance, and low interest financial loans for the purchase of a variety of AT and home modifications. MDTAP employees are knowledgeable, patient, and helpful with unmatched customer service. They are a shining example of what a government program should look like.

This bill would officially establish the Maryland Assistive Technology Program in the Department of Disabilities to provide assistive technology devices and services to individuals with disabilities, and establish the Assistive Technology Services Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund within the Department. There should not be a new fiscal impact to the state created by this legislation: the program will continue to operate as it has for several years.

It is important that we enshrine MDTAP and its purpose and responsibilities in statute for its continued operations and preservation.

We urge a favorable report on SB 208.

Sincerely,
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