

HB1244 Maryland Developmental Disabilities Administration Waiver Advisory Council – Establishment

Sponsors: Delegates Guyton and Bagnall

FAVORABLE

The Self-Directed Advocacy Network of Maryland, Inc. (SDAN)

We are grateful to Chair Peña-Melnyk, Vice Chair Cullison, Delegates Guyton and Bagnall, and the committee for your ongoing support of the rights of individuals with developmental disabilities, especially the right to play a role in the development of public policies that affect them.

SDAN supports the bill for ensuring that the DDA Waiver Advisory Council is codified in law, includes a broad range of stakeholders and aims for consensus in its recommendations.

We would like the committee to consider adding an additional member. Support Brokers are integral members of the team for individuals in the Self-Directed Service model. With the addition of a Support Broker, the committee would have someone who can quickly see how policies might affect multiple individuals, as well as how policies might affect employees, vendors, and others working within the framework of Self-Directed Services who are not represented in the current makeup of the committee. We believe this will bring further balance to the panel in regard to the service models.

We can be contacted at info@marylandsds.org should you or your team wish to discuss this further.