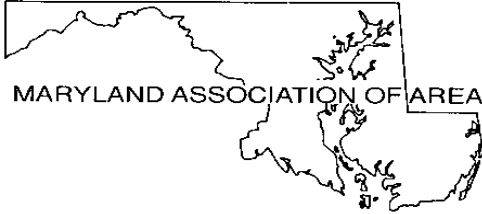


M4A



*Gina Valentine
President
Representing Carroll County
Bureau of Aging & Disabilities*

*Karen Winkowski, Vice President
Representing Harford County
Office on Aging*

*Laura Riley, Treasurer
Representing Baltimore County
Department of Aging*

*Karrisa Gouin, Secretary
Representing Anne Arundel County
Department of Aging and Disabilities*

House Health & Government Operations Committee – Bill Hearing March 20, 2025

Legislation: SB 212 Department of Aging – Aging Services – Program Repeal and Consolidation

Position: Support as Amended

The nineteen member organizations of the Maryland Association of Area Agencies on Aging (M4A) serve Maryland’s older and disabled citizens, providing a range of cost-effective state, federal and locally funded programs that help individuals remain secure in the community with dignity, independence, and choice as they age. M4A and its associated Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) represent the “front line” in Maryland’s challenge to meet the complex and varied needs of well over 1 million older adults statewide. M4A’s goal is to ensure communication and collaboration with all partners to maximize the resources available to those we serve.

M4A supports Senate Bill 212 as amended. Overall, consolidation of these programs has the potential to streamline operations, reduce administrative overhead, and provide flexibility for local AAAs to meet the differing needs of our communities. Senior Care, Senior Assisted Living Subsidy, and Congregate Housing Services Program are essential safety net services meeting the needs of people who largely are ineligible for Medicaid, but still cannot afford services to help them stay in their homes, in the community.

For the reasons stated herein, M4A supports SB 212.