

**2026 SB 123 Senator Simonaire\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Kara Contino

Position: FAV

BRYAN W. SIMONAIRE  
Legislative District 31  
Anne Arundel County

Education, Energy, and the  
Environment Committee

Joint Committee on the Chesapeake and  
Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area



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## *The Senate of Maryland* ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

### **SB 123 – Oversight Committee Membership**

I am Senator Bryan Simonaire presenting SB 123.

As drafted, this consensus bill revises the number of Senators and Delegates on the *Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities*.

I have coordinated with both the House and Senate committees, the Department of Aging and with the *Oversight Committee*.

Currently in law, 2 Senators and 2 Delegates are assigned to the Committee. This bill makes it 1 Senator and 1 Delegate.

The reason is because prior to 2023, this *oversight* committee had shared responsibility between EEE and Finance. Thus 2 Senators were assigned to the committee, and the House matched the number of Senators on the committee with 2 of their own Delegates.

In 2023, the Senate Committee names were changed along with their scope of responsibility, and as a result the *oversight* committee no longer was under 2 Senate committees but just Finance.

Therefore, the Senate now only needs one member on the *oversight* committee. And since there is only one Senate member needed, the House no longer desires to have 2 members but 1 as well.

Just as a note: This bill was part of a bigger bill that passed the senate last year. Last year's bill also updated more than 60 incorrect committee name references in our laws.

However, the House decided to let the Annual Corrective bill update all the committee reference names this session. Therefore, the bill didn't move in the House last year.

There was one portion of last year's bill that was a policy decision that couldn't be updated in the Annual Corrective bill – The Senate and Delegate membership on the *Oversight committee*.

So, this bill now simply updates the *Oversight* membership as just described.

There is one amendment that I support and was proposed by the Department of Aging to update the membership on the committee as some groups are defunct now and some names have changed.

For all these reasons, I ask for your favorable consideration with amendments.

# **SB 123 - Sponsor Amendment**

Uploaded by: Kara Contino

Position: FAV



SB0123/693328/1

AMENDMENTS  
PREPARED  
BY THE  
DEPT. OF LEGISLATIVE  
SERVICES

26 JAN 26  
15:36:59

BY: Senator Simonaire  
(To be offered in the Finance Committee)

AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 123  
(First Reading File Bill)

On page 2, strike beginning with “and” in line 6 down through “Operations” in line 7; and strike in their entirety lines 29 and 30.

On page 3, in lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, and 12, strike “(ii)”, “(iii)”, “(iv)”, “(v)”, “(vi)”, “(vii)”, “(ix)”, “(x)”, and “(xi)”, respectively, and substitute “**(I)**”, “**(II)**”, “**(III)**”, “**(IV)**”, “**(V)**”, “**(VI)**”, “**(VII)**”, “**(VIII)**”, and “**(IX)**”, respectively; strike line 7 in its entirety; in line 11, strike “and”; in line 12, strike the second “of” and substitute “**FOR MEDICAL**”; after line 13, insert:

“**(X) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF LEADINGAGE MARYLAND;**  
**AND**”;

and in line 14, after “which” insert “**, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE,**”.

# **SB 123 - Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in**

Uploaded by: Sara Westrick

Position: FAV



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**SB 213 - Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living  
Facilities - Membership  
Senate Finance Committee  
January 27, 2026  
FAVORABLE**

Good afternoon, Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes, and members of the Senate Finance Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of Senate Bill 213, which modifies the membership of the Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities. AARP Maryland thanks Senator Simonaire for sponsoring this legislation.

My name is Sara Westrick, Advocacy Director for AARP Maryland, and I am a recently appointed member of the Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities.

AARP Maryland is one of the largest membership-based organizations in the state, with approximately 850,000 members. AARP Maryland serves on the Oversight Committee because it represents the interests of Maryland's over 50 population, including families who rely on high-quality nursing home and assisted living care. AARP brings the lived experiences, concerns, and priorities of our members to the discussion table, ensuring that policy decisions reflect the needs of older adults.

AARP Maryland's long history of advocacy on long-term care issues positions it to provide informed, data-driven insights that strengthen accountability and improve care quality across facilities. By participating directly in the committee's work, AARP helps advance reforms that promote safety, dignity, and transparency for residents and their caregivers. Our involvement also ensures that consumer voices are meaningfully represented in discussions about oversight, staffing, resident protections, and systemic improvements. Supporting the Oversight Committee's work is critical to addressing the many challenges and complex issues that persist in the long-term care arena.

SB 213 offers a technical update to the composition of the Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities, bringing its mandate and authorization into the present day and reflecting the 2026 Maryland General Assembly.

AARP Maryland respectfully requests a favorable report on SB 213. If you have any questions, please contact Sara Westrick at [swestrick@aarp.org](mailto:swestrick@aarp.org) or by calling 410-310-0374.



# LeadingAge Maryland - 2026 - SB 123 - Oversight Co

Uploaded by: Aaron Greenfield

Position: FWA



PO Box 34  
Sykesville, MD 21784

**TO:** Senate Finance Committee  
**FROM:** LeadingAge Maryland  
**SUBJECT:** Senate Bill 123, Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities - Membership  
**DATE:** January 27, 2026  
**POSITION:** Favorable with Amendment

LeadingAge Maryland supports with amendment Senate Bill 123, Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities – Membership.

LeadingAge Maryland is a community of more than 150 not-for-profit aging services organizations serving residents and clients through continuing care retirement communities, affordable senior housing, assisted living, nursing homes and home and community-based services. Members of LeadingAge Maryland provide health care, housing, and services to more than 20,000 older persons each year. Our mission is to be the trusted voice for aging in Maryland, and our vision is that Maryland is a state where older adults have access to the services they need, when they need them, in the place they call home.

Senate Bill 123 reduces the number of representatives from the House Health and Government Operations Committee from two to one. The bill maintains the existing membership structure, which includes representatives from various state agencies, consumer advocacy groups, and industry organizations.

The Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities addresses important issues for older adults. The Oversight Committee would greatly benefit from the expertise and perspective of LeadingAge Maryland, a prominent organization representing not-for-profit aging services providers in the state. LeadingAge Maryland's members are committed to delivering high-quality care and services to older adults, and their involvement in the Oversight Committee would be invaluable in shaping policies that promote excellence in care.

LeadingAge Maryland respectfully proposes an amendment to add a representative from LeadingAge Maryland to the Oversight Committee. This addition would further strengthen the

committee's ability to address the unique needs and challenges of not-for-profit aging services providers, ultimately benefiting the residents and families they serve.

Amendment: On page 3, line 13, strike “and”; on line 14, add “ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF LEADINGAGE MARYLAND; AND”

For these reasons, LeadingAge Maryland respectfully requests a favorable report with amendment for Senate Bill 123.

# **MDOA - Written FWA SB123 - Oversight Committee NH**

Uploaded by: Carmel Roques

Position: FWA



Wes Moore | Governor

Aruna Miller | Lt. Governor

Carmel Roques | Secretary

Date: January 23, 2026

Bill Number: **SB 123**

Bill Title: Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities - Membership

Committee: Senate Finance

**MDOA Position: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS**

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The Maryland Department of Aging (MDOA) thanks the Chair and Committee members for the opportunity to submit this **favorable with amendments** testimony for Senate Bill (SB) 123 - Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities - Membership.

MDOA serves as Maryland's State Unit on Aging, administering federal and state funding for core programs, overseeing the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) network at the local level that provides supportive services to older adults, and planning for Maryland's growing older adult population. Under Human Services Article § 19-1409, the Secretary of Aging, or their designee, is an appointed member of the Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities (the "Oversight Committee") and must serve as the Chair. MDOA currently provides all staff support for the Oversight Committee.

MDOA is supportive of SB 123's aim to conform the current membership with respect to its General Assembly members with the current committee structure. MDOA requests additional straightforward amendments that:

- repeal two member organizations that no longer exist, the Health Facilities Association of Maryland, and Voices for Quality Care;
- Updates the name of the Maryland Association for Medical Adult Day Services;
- Adds a representative for LeadingAge Maryland, a membership association that includes nursing home and assisted living facilities;



Wes Moore | Governor

Aruna Miller | Lt. Governor

Carmel Roques | Secretary

- Modifies the language of the currently prescribed three representatives from the assisted living industry to give reasonable flexibility terms of the assisted living facility sizes as prescribed currently in statute. To date there have been challenges in securing consistent assisted living facility participation on the Oversight Committee in each size group (serving 1-4 residents, 5-9 residents, and more than 10 residents).

MDOA thanks the sponsor for his leadership in making needed updates to this important committee's statute. For these reasons, the Department of Aging respectfully urges a **favorable with amendments** report for SB 123. If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Nunez, Legislative Director, at [andrea.nunez@maryland.gov](mailto:andrea.nunez@maryland.gov) or (443) 414-8183.

Sincerely,

Carmel Roques  
Secretary  
Maryland Department of Aging



Wes Moore | Governor

Aruna Miller | Lt. Governor

Carmel Roques | Secretary

## **Proposed Amendments to SB 123 – Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities - Membership**

On page 2, insert in subsection (b)(3):

(3) ~~Two members~~ **ONE MEMBER** of the House Health [and Government Operations] Committee, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

On pages 2 and 3, insert in subsection (b)(13):

[14] (13) The following representatives, selected by the organizations the individuals represents:

- [(i) One representative from the Health Facilities Association of Maryland;]
- [(ii)](i) One representative from Mid-Atlantic Lifespan;
- [(iii)](ii) One representative of the Hospice Network of Maryland;
- [(iv)](iii) One representative of the Maryland Hospital Association;
- [(v)](iv) One representative of 1199 SEIU United Health Workers East;
- [(vi)](v) One representative of the Maryland Chapter of AARP;
- [(vii)](vi) One representative of United Seniors of Maryland;
- [(viii) One representative of Voices for Quality Care;]
- [(ix)] (vii) One representative of the Mental Health Association of Maryland knowledgeable in issues of aging;
- [(x)](viii) One representative of the Maryland Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association;



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Carmel Roques | Secretary

[(xi)](ix) One representative of the Maryland Association FOR [of] **MEDICAL** Adult Day Services; and

(x) **ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF LEADINGAGE MARYLAND**

(14) Three representatives from the assisted living industry, **OF WHICH, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE**, representatives shall come from programs that care for 1 to four residents, five to nine residents, and more than 10 residents.

# **SB0123\_FWA\_LifeSpan, MD-MADS\_Oversight Comm. Quali**

Uploaded by: Danna Kauffman

Position: FWA



Managed By LifeSpan

Senate Finance Committee

January 27, 2026

Senate Bill 123 – *Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities – Membership*

**POSITION: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT**

On behalf of the LifeSpan Network and the Maryland Association for Medical Adult Day Services, we support the bill with additional technical amendments. Senate Bill 123 makes technical changes to the composition of the Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities, mainly due to the jurisdiction shift of health occupations from the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee to the Senate Finance Committee.

As part of the “clean-up,” we would recommend correcting the names of participating members, particularly removing reference to the Health Facilities Association of Maryland from membership and changing the name of the Maryland Association of Adult Day Services to the Maryland Association for Medical Adult Day Services.<sup>1</sup>

**For more information call:**

Danna L. Kauffman

Christine K. Krone

410-244-7000

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<sup>1</sup> The Health Facilities Association of Maryland no longer is an operating entity in Maryland.

**SB123\_Colchamiro.FwA.pdf**

Uploaded by: Eric Colchamiro

Position: FWA

Eric Colchamiro  
1607 Ballard Street  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

### **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS**

SB 123: Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities - Membership

Senator Beidle and Vice-Chair Hayes,  
Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 123, legislation which alters the membership of the NH/AL Oversight committee. Thank you also to Chair Beidle, for her long-time commitment to this issue, and for long serving as an active committee member.

I write with extensive experience serving on this committee, including during the pandemic, where I chaired the subcommittee which wrote its annual report. I also note, for the purpose of this testimony, the 2025 lawsuit against the MD Department of Health for lapsed and insufficient nursing home inspections. The work and consistent meetings of this committee are essential.

This committee, as designed, benefits from having the Secretary of Aging as its chair—not industry, not consumers, but ideally the Secretary as a consistent non-partisan advocate for seniors across Maryland. I urge the committee to not alter the chairmanship of the committee.

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS**

*This committee was first created in 2000; today, there is an opportunity to update the committee membership — with the appropriate number of elected officials, and their correct committees — **and also addressing organizations codified into law which no longer actively exist***

As such, I ask for a favorable with amendments report from the committee.

#### First Proposed Amendment

**DELETE:** 6 (vii) One representative of United Seniors of Maryland;

**REPLACE WITH:** 6 (vii) One representative of the Maryland Continuing Care Residents Association

#### **Rationale:**

United Seniors of Maryland, or USM, was a non-profit organization. While active for many years, USM has not filed a 990 tax form for some time and does not maintain an active website. Although a representative of USM currently serves on the Oversight Committee, her appointment derives from a nomination made many years ago, when USM was active. Given that USM no longer exists for all intents and purposes, its representation is not appropriate.

Alternatively, MaCCRA is an active organization, with an ongoing voice in Annapolis on issues related to long-term care and seniors. They are a justifiable replacement for USM.

## Second Amendment

**DELETE:** 7 (viii) One representative of Voices for Quality Care;

**REPLACE WITH:** 7 (viii) One attorney representing the Public Justice Center of Maryland

### **Rationale:**

Much like USM, Voices for Quality Care (V4QC) did active and important advocacy in Annapolis for many years. Yet a quick search shows their website ([voicesforqualitycare.org](http://voicesforqualitycare.org)), once featured in its testimony given in Annapolis, now re-directs to a Hong Kong lottery website. Additionally, a look at the [Oversight Committee website](#) shows 1) no current member from V4QC among many listed; and 2) in meeting minutes, no individual currently listed to represent V4QC.

PJC, a vital Baltimore-based non-profit organization, has done critical work in recent years in Annapolis on issues related to workplace justice and the wages of long-term care workers. For an Oversight committee focused on healthcare quality, their voice — elevating the issues of the invaluable long-term care workforce — is an essential addition to modernize this 26-year-old committee.