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February 13, 2026

The Honorable Melissa Wells  
Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee  
145 Lowe House Office Building  
142 Lowe House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**Re: HB0640 – Mandated Reports, Boards, and Commissions – Revision**

Dear Madam Chair,

The Maryland Commission on Caregiving is pleased to submit this letter of support for HB0640 – Mandated Reports, Boards, and Commissions – Revisions.

This bill updates the membership composition of the Maryland Commission on Caregiving by removing the seat for a representative of the Maryland Respite Care Coalition, which is no longer active, and adding a seat for a consumer of respite care services. These changes strengthen the Commission by ensuring that individuals with lived experience using respite care have a direct voice in caregiver policy discussions.

Serving as the ‘voice of the Maryland family caregiver,’ the Maryland Commission on Caregiving (“Commission”) is charged with recommending policies that positively impact caregivers, soliciting and responding to their concerns, and acknowledging their contributions. Including consumers of respite care services alongside family caregivers provides valuable insight into how respite programs are accessed and experienced.

Considering this, the Commission strongly supports efforts to modernize and balance its membership to reflect real-world caregiving and respite care needs. Thoughtful representation improves the Commission’s ability to make informed, responsive recommendations.

HB0640 will enhance the Commission’s capacity to advance policies that strengthen respite care and caregiver sustainability.

Sincerely,

The Maryland Commission on Caregiving