



Bill: HB 882 - Consumer Health Information - Termination Date and Mandatory Funding for the State's Consumer Health Information Hub - Repeal

Committee: House Health Committee

Position: Favorable

Date: February 17, 2026

On behalf of the 127,200 Marylanders living with Alzheimer's disease, the Alzheimer's Association supports HB 882. HB 882 will ensure the continuation of Maryland's Consumer Health Information Hub while allowing for state flexibility in annual funding.

The Alzheimer's Association supports efforts that ensure Marylanders have access to accurate, consistent, plain-language health information, particularly for Marylanders navigating a dementia diagnosis. The Consumer Health Information Hub plays a vital role in promoting accessible, evidence-based health information and partnering with state agencies, health systems, and community organizations to advance health literacy across Maryland.

According to the Consumer Health Information Hub's 2025 annual report, the Hub has built a statewide infrastructure for clear, accessible health communication—engaging over 100 agencies and organizations, hosting statewide convenings, and participating in over 160 community events while providing widely used tools like the Maryland Plain Language Checklist and a Web Content Review Tool. Its free webinars, technical assistance, and website reviews have strengthened plain-language communication across state and local agencies.

This growing infrastructure is especially important for conditions like dementia, where families rely on clear information at every stage of the disease. Ensuring that state and local agencies use plain-language health communication is essential. For Marylanders impacted by dementia, having clear, easy-to-understand information on risk reduction, early detection, diagnosis, care planning, and available services helps families make informed decisions and access support when they need it most.

For these reasons, we urge a favorable report on HB 882. Please contact Megan Peters, Director of Government Affairs at mrpeters@alz.org with any questions.