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**HB 747 - Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living
Facilities - Membership
House Health Committee
February 12, 2026
FAVORABLE**

Good afternoon, Chair Bagnall, Vice Chair Cullison, and members of the House Health Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of House Bill 747, which modifies the membership of the Oversight Committee on Quality of Care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities. AARP Maryland thanks Delegate Kipke 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.

HB 747 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 HB 747. If you have any questions, please contact Sara Westrick at swestrick@aarp.org or by calling 410-310-0374.

