

# HOUSE BILL 1280

O2, O3

6lr1272  
CF SB 809

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By: Delegates Wims, Coley, Crutchfield, Kaufman, McComas, Vogel, Wolek, ~~and Young~~ Young, Alston, Bagnall, Cullison, Guzzone, Hill, S. Johnson, Lopez, Martinez, Rosenberg, Ross, Taveras, White Holland, and Woorman

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2026

Assigned to: Health

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 3, 2026

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

### 2 **Supporting Our Caregiver Infrastructure Program – Feasibility Study**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the ~~Office of the Comptroller~~ University of Maryland, College  
4 Park, with assistance from the Department of Human Services, to conduct a certain  
5 feasibility study for establishing and operating the Supporting Our Caregiver  
6 Infrastructure Program; and generally relating to a feasibility study for the  
7 Supporting Our Caregiver Infrastructure Program.

8 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
9 That:

10 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

11 (2) “Caregiver” means an individual who provides care or support to a  
12 qualified family member.

13 (3) “Department” means the Department of Human Services.

14 (4) “Qualified family member” means an individual who:

15 (i) requires assistance with one or more daily living activities, as  
16 certified by a licensed physician, physician assistant, or registered nurse practitioner; and

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (ii) 1. is at least 60 years old and is cared for by an adult relative  
2 or informal caregiver who is at least 18 years old;

3 2. has Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder and is cared  
4 for by an adult relative or informal caregiver who is at least 18 years old;

5 3. is a child with developmental or functional disabilities and  
6 is cared for by a parent, grandparent, or other relative; or

7 4. is an adult with developmental or functional disabilities  
8 and is cared for by a parent, grandparent, or other relative.

9 (b) (1) ~~The Office of the Comptroller~~ University of Maryland, College Park,  
10 with assistance from the Department, shall study and make recommendations on the  
11 feasibility of establishing and operating a Supporting Our Caregiver Infrastructure  
12 Program to provide universal monthly payments to a caregiver for each dependent for  
13 whom a caregiver provides care.

14 (2) In conducting the study required under paragraph (1) of this  
15 subsection, ~~the Office of the Comptroller~~ University of Maryland, College Park, in  
16 consultation with the Office of the Comptroller, shall examine the economic impact on the  
17 State and local economies, including:

18 (i) potential increased labor force participation;

19 (ii) enhanced tax revenues;

20 (iii) potential decreased participation in public benefits programs in  
21 the State; and

22 (iv) the overall economic vitality of the State.

23 (3) The University of Maryland, College Park shall explore appropriate  
24 amounts for caregiver stipends that maximize the benefit to the State economy and  
25 minimize the fiscal impact on the State budget.

26 ~~(3)~~ (4) The Department shall assist the ~~Office of the Comptroller~~ University of  
27 Maryland, College Park in conducting the study required under paragraph (1) of this  
28 subsection by:

29 (i) identifying available and potential federal, State, and local  
30 funding sources for the program;

31 (ii) identifying the administrative needs, administrative costs, and  
32 operating costs associated with the development and implementation of the program; and

1 ~~(iii) exploring appropriate amounts for caregiver stipends that~~  
2 ~~maximize the benefit to the State economy and minimize the fiscal impact on the State~~  
3 ~~budget; and~~

4 ~~(iv)~~ (iii) consulting with:

- 5 1. the Maryland Department of Aging;
- 6 2. the Maryland Department of Health; and
- 7 3. local agencies on aging and disabilities, including a unit of
- 8 local government or a private, nonprofit corporation.

9 (c) On or before July 1, ~~2027~~ 2028, the ~~Office of the Comptroller~~ University of  
10 Maryland, College Park shall submit a final report of its findings, conclusions, and  
11 recommendations to the Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Budget and Taxation  
12 Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the House Health Committee, in  
13 accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
15 1, 2026. It shall remain effective for a period of ~~2~~ 3 years and, at the end of June 30, ~~2028~~  
16 2029, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated  
17 and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.