



THE COORDINATING CENTER R
INSPIRED SOLUTIONS

Committee: House Appropriations Committee
Bill Number: House Bill 498
Title: Department of Aging – Grants for Aging-in-Place Programs – Funding
Hearing Date: February 11, 2020
Position: Support

The Coordinating Center (The Center) supports *House Bill 498 – Department of Aging – Grants for Aging-in-Place Programs – Funding*. This bill would require an annual appropriation of \$1 million for grants to support older adults aging-in-place.

The Center was very supportive of legislation in 2019 – *Nonprofits for our Aging Neighbors Act – “NANA”*, which authorized the Department of Aging to make grants to nonprofit organizations to expand and establish aging-in-place programs for older adults. Unfortunately, the 2019 legislation did not include a funding mechanism.

One of the program services included in the 2019 legislation was the provision of care coordination. This remains an essential component in ensuring that individuals with complex or multiple health care needs remain independent in the community and are not unnecessarily admitted to hospitals from lack of appropriate coordination. This aligns with existing statewide efforts including Maryland’s Total Cost of Care model, which is primarily targeted to Medicare recipients.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony, and we urge a favorable vote. If we can provide any further information, please contact Rachael Faulkner at rfaulkner@policypartners.net or (410) 693-4000.