



8601 Robert Fulton Dr Suite 140 Columbia, MD 21046



1500 Union Avenue Suite 2000 Baltimore, MD 21211



8835 Columbia 100 Pky Suite P Columbia, MD 21044



217 E Redwood Street Suite 1300 Baltimore, MD 21202



7000 Tudsbury Road Windsor Mill, MD 21244

Economic Matters Committee

HB 312: Discrimination in Employment - Reasonable Accommodations for Applicants With Disabilities

February 11, 2020 Position: Support

The Maryland Developmental Disabilities Coalition (DD Coalition) is comprised of five statewide organizations that are committed to improving the opportunities and outcomes for Marylanders with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). As such, the DD Coalition supports HB 312.

WHY is this legislation important?

- A much larger proportion of the population of people with disabilities in unemployed compared to Marylanders as a whole
- People with disabilities should be empowered and supported to access employment that pays livable wages and provides full benefits
- Adequate accommodations and supports are essential to success
- Accommodations and supports that lead to employment will make achieving full participation in community life more possible

WHAT does this legislation do?

- Requires employers to make reasonable accommodations for an applicant with disabilities including:
 - Allowing for an online application process
 - Accepting an alternate form of resume, such as video
 - Allowing support personnel or others to provide assistance to the applicant
 - Providing an accessible interview location

This legislation facilitates employment for people with developmental disabilities, and as a result, increases access to opportunity, the community, and a higher quality of life for all.

Contact: Keith Walmsley, Director of Public Policy Initiatives, MD DDC KWalmsley@md-council.org