



TO: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair  
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee  
The Honorable Sheree Sample-Hughes

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman  
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer  
Richard A. Tabuteau

DATE: February 12, 2020

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 456 – *Maryland Department of Health – Public Health Outreach Programs – Cognitive Impairment, Alzheimer’s Disease, and Other Types of Dementia*

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On behalf of the LifeSpan Network, the Maryland Association of Adult Day Services, and the Hospice & Palliative Care Network of Maryland, we **support** House Bill 456.

House Bill 456 will require the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), in partnership with the Department of Aging, the Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Council, and the Alzheimer's Association, to incorporate information regarding cognitive impairment, Alzheimer's disease, and other types of dementia into relevant public health outreach programs administered by MDH for the purpose of educating providers on early detection and diagnosis and increasing public awareness on early warning and detection of Alzheimer's disease and other types of dementia. Between 2015 and 2030, Maryland's 60+ population is anticipated to increase from 1.2 million to 1.7 million, a 40% increase. Similarly, the number of people aged 65 and older with Alzheimer's disease in Maryland is expected to increase 18.2% by 2025. House Bill 456 aligns with the recommendations in the Maryland State Plan on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders (released December 2012) to enhance public awareness. The above-referenced associations urge a favorable vote.

**For more information call:**

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