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**HB1095 Public Health - Prescription Drug Affordability Board and Fund  
SUPPORT  
House Health and Government Operations Committee  
March 05, 2020**

Good Afternoon Chairwoman Pendergrass and Members of the Health and Government Operations Committee. I am Tammy Bresnahan. I am the Director of Advocacy for AARP MD. AARP Maryland is one of the largest membership-based organizations in the Free State, encompassing almost 900,000 members. **AARP MD overwhelmingly supports HB 1095 Public Health - Prescription Drug Affordability Board and Fund. .**

AARP is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, nationwide organization that helps people turn their goals and dreams into real possibilities, strengthens communities and fights for the issues that matter most to families such as healthcare, employment and income security, retirement planning, affordable utilities and protection from financial abuse.

HB 1095 requires a funding mechanism for the Prescription Drug Affordability Board.

The rising cost of essential necessities, including groceries, utilities, and prescription drugs, are of significant concern for millions of Marylanders, especially for older and retired Marylanders living on fixed incomes. In fact, in 2017, 22% of Maryland residents stopped taking medication as prescribed due to rising costs.

We believe it is imperative we do something to help Marylanders afford their out-pocket cost prescription drug costs. For these reasons AARP Maryland respectfully requests a favorable report for HB 1095.

For questions or additional information, please feel free to contact Tammy Bresnahan, Director of Advocacy at [tbresnahan@aarp.org](mailto:tbresnahan@aarp.org) or by calling 410-302-8451.

