



# *Maryland Senior Citizens Action Network*

## **MSCAN**

*AARP Maryland*

*Alzheimer's  
Association,  
Maryland Chapters*

*Baltimore Jewish  
Council*

*Catholic Charities*

*Central Maryland  
Ecumenical Council*

*Church of the Brethren*

*Episcopal Diocese of  
Maryland*

*Housing Opportunities  
Commission of  
Montgomery County*

*Jewish Community  
Relations Council of  
Greater Washington*

*Lutheran Office on  
Public Policy in  
Maryland*

*Maryland Association of  
Area Agencies on Aging*

*Maryland Catholic  
Conference*

*Mental Health  
Association of Maryland*

*Mid-Atlantic LifeSpan*

*National Association of  
Social Workers,  
Maryland Chapter*

*Presbytery of Baltimore*

*The Coordinating  
Center*

*MSCAN Co-Chairs:  
Carol Lienhard  
Kimberly Burton  
443-901-1550 x 210*

## **Testimony in Support of HB 745 Office of the Attorney General - Senior and Vulnerable Adult Asset Recovery Unit**

**House Appropriations Committee  
March 5, 2020**

The Maryland Senior Citizens Action Network (MSCAN) is a statewide coalition of advocacy groups, service providers, faith-based and mission-driven organizations that supports policies that meet the housing and care needs of Maryland's low and moderate-income seniors. We appreciate the opportunity today to offer our support for HB 745.

Scams, fraud and crimes against older and vulnerable adults are unfortunate realities that are becoming more common in Maryland. Many of our members are familiar with cases whereby older and vulnerable adults are victims that have lost what they were relying on for their future security.

We are fortunate to have advocates in the Office of the Attorney General that work on these crimes however, the demand for assistance outpaces the resources that exist to support justice for this vulnerable population. For this reason, MSCAN strongly supports the passage of HB 745 which establishes a "Senior and Vulnerable Adult Asset Recovery Unit" in the Office of the Attorney General. The establishment and funding to staff the unit, and investigate and assist prosecution by the unit, will be important to spare significant loss to an already compromised group of people who likely do not have the means to recover damages on their own.

MSCAN respectfully requests your favorable report on HB 745. Maryland's seniors deserve the protection and assistance that HB 745 will bring.