



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

DATE: January 19, 2021

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 119 – *Maryland Department of Health – Public Health Outreach Programs – Cognitive Impairment, Alzheimer’s Disease, and Other Types of Dementia*

On behalf of the LifeSpan Network, the Maryland-National Capital Homecare Association, and the Maryland Association of Adult Day Services, we **support** House Bill 119.

House Bill 119 requires 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.

Enhancing public awareness was the fourth goal in the report released in December of 2012 by the Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Council (Maryland State Plan on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders). However, Maryland has not yet undertaken this type of campaign despite that by 2030 Maryland’s 60+ population is anticipated to increase from 1.2 million to 1.7 million, a 40% increase. Therefore, the above-referenced associations urge a favorable vote.

For more information call:

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