

HB 1000

Estates and Trusts: Guardian of Property Disbursement for Minor or Disabled Individual

Position: Support with Amendment

Written by Mat Rice

Honorable chairperson and members of the committee. The Arc Maryland is one of the state's largest grassroots advocacy organizations which advocates for the right to full inclusion for people with intellectual/and or developmental disabilities, and their families. We support the intent of HB 1000 which would require an individual who has guardianship of a minor or an individual with a disability to obtain court authorization prior to the distribution of any property owned by the individual in question. However, the language in this bill should be amended to apply to any guardian, regardless of whether or not that individual happens to be a family member to the individual with the disability, or the minor, due to the potential for exploitation.

The simple fact of the matter is that anyone can exploit somebody, regardless of whether or not they have a blood affiliation. Therefore, to protect the rights of everyone equally, the language should be amended to apply to everyone who serves in a guardianship capacity. Thank you and we support this legislation and its intent with this added clarifying language.

Should you have any questions please contact

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