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Finance Committee

SB905

Support Bill

Maryland Oncology Hematology Robin Lindenberger Patient Advocate

Good Afternoon Finance Committee,

My name is Robin Lindenberger, Patient Advocate at Maryland Oncology Hematology and I here today in favor of SB 905.

The Office of Home Energy Programs has been instrumental in providing much needed help during this unfortunate time in their lives. For our senior (60+) patients applying for the first time for energy assistance can be a daunting task. Many of our patients are on chemotherapy as well as radiation treatments. They suffer debilitating side effects and is quite hard for them just to carry out activities of daily living. They can not travel to OHEP offices and is difficult to reach a live person on the telephone. It is equally as hard for them to access computers and printers.

I think a dedicated team just for our senior patients to help navigate the application process and obtain all documentation would be a great service. It would expedite the process so they can just focus on getting well. I believe they would have a faster turn around time being approved for the program.

Robin Lindenberger

Sincerely,

Robin Lindenberger