



Managed by LifeSpan



TO: The Honorable Delores G. Kelley, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Brian J. Feldman

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer

DATE: February 22, 2022

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 527 – *Elderly Individuals – Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services Pilot Program and Task Force*

On behalf of the Maryland Association of Adult Day Services and the Maryland-National Capital Homecare Association, we **support** the passage of Senate Bill 527.

This bill establishes a Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services Pilot Program to integrate the provision of medical adult day care, home health care, and medical services provided under Medicaid. Participation in the Pilot Program is strictly voluntary for providers. Howard and Montgomery counties may jointly designate and authorize the operation of one or more entities to serve as an “integrator” and coordinate all services provided under the Pilot Program.

The bill also establishes a Task Force to: (1) examine the status of medical adult day care in the State; (2) review and evaluate the list of services required in the Pilot Program; (3) review and evaluate the efficacy of providing services using an integrator; (4) identify and measure any enhanced continuity of care, using the integrator model, that would allow enrollees to remain in their homes and the community, defer treatment in higher levels of care, and reduce the incidences of treatment in acute care settings; (5) identify and measure any reduction in unnecessary utilization of emergency medical services by enrollees; and (6) identify and measure other potential benefits of the integrator model.

Senate Bill 527 seeks to develop an innovative approach to better coordinate care for those receiving services in the community. Through better coordination, the hope is that individuals will be able to remain in the community and avoid more expensive institutional and hospital care. The bill does recognize that not every medical adult day center or home care agency has the needed resources to implement the requirements of this Pilot Program, so we approach the voluntary nature of this Pilot Program. Ultimately, we look forward to the analysis that will be included in the annual report to help guide the State on how to implement changes to better serve individuals in community settings. For these reasons, we urge a favorable vote on Senate Bill 527.

For more information call:

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