

March 1, 2022

**Administrative Offices  
& Behavioral Support Services**  
355 W Dares Beach Rd  
P.O. Box 1860  
Prince Frederick, MD 20678  
P: (410) 535.2413  
F: (410) 535.4124

Delegate Shane Pendergrass  
Room 241  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Behavioral Support Services  
F: (410) 535.1314

RE: Statement of Support: HB 1243 Rural Non-emergency Medical Transportation

**Charles County Services**  
3601 Leonardtown Rd  
Waldorf, MD 20602  
P: (301) 932.7809  
F: (301) 932.7831

Dear Delegate Pendergrass:

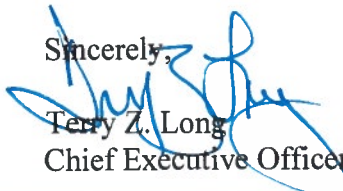
The Arc of Southern Maryland is delighted to support your consideration of HB 1243 to establish a rural non-emergency medical transportation program in Maryland. For three years, our organization has been transporting patients for the Wheels to Wellness program which coordinates rides for patients who are identified by the Hospital Case Coordinators with our highly trained and specialized drivers.

**St. Mary's County Services**  
Breton Market Place  
25470 Point Lookout Road, Unit H  
Leonardtown, MD 20650  
P: (301) 475.5652  
F: (301) 475.0122

As a non-profit human service provider, our drivers are highly trained in medical transportation. In addition to standard roadway safety training, our drivers must be skilled in wheelchair securement, emergency medical response and must maintain an even patient temperament. Our drivers will not assist patients door to door, and will make sure the patient is secured. Further, since our drivers are primarily busy in early morning hours or late afternoon, the Wheels to Wellness program creates a driver demand during prime office hours when our drivers are underutilized. In a similar manner, since the proposed legislation partners non-profits such as Arc or the TCLE with the hospital care coordinators, the bill will create industry resiliency by increasing productivity for our drivers.

I look forward to learning about the bill passage. If I can be of any additional help please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Terry Z. Long  
Chief Executive Officer

arcsomd.org  
The Arc Southern Maryland  
is a 501(c)(3) agency.



All contributions to our  
organization are tax deductible  
to the extent allowed by law.

Cc: John Hartline, Executive Director  
Tri-county Council for Southern Maryland