



MARYLAND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COALITION

Dedicated to the rights and quality of life for people with developmental disabilities in Maryland

House Ways and Means Committee

SB093 – Tax Credits Employment of Individuals with Disabilities

March 23, 2022

Position: Support



8601 Robert Fulton Dr
Suite 140
Columbia, MD 21046

The Maryland Developmental Disabilities Coalition (DD Coalition) is comprised of five statewide organizations that are committed to improving the opportunities and outcomes for Marylanders with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). As such, the DD Coalition supports SB 93.



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Background:

Marylanders with disabilities and their families clearly express their desire for jobs in the community, earning living wages with benefits, and with opportunities for career advancement.

While Maryland is above average compared to national data in the number of people it supports in integrated employment, there has been little growth in the past decade.



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According to disabilitystatistics.org, from 2015 (1), the employment rate in the US for people with disabilities was 35.2 percent, compared to a 78.3 percent employment rate of people without disabilities.

Data from the Developmental Disabilities Administration's collaboration with statedata.info from 2018 (2) indicates that employment was higher for people with any disability at 43% of the population in Maryland, compared to a 78% of people with no disability employed, however **only 32% of people with cognitive disabilities were employed**. The tax credit has not increased since 2015 when previous legislation passed in Maryland.



Maryland Developmental
Disabilities Council

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Positive impact of SB 93:

Simply, the tax credits provide a financial incentive for employers to hire people with disabilities. This makes sense for employers because they save money by hiring qualified, motivated candidates. The tax credit benefits the State because it provides one option to address the high unemployment of people with disabilities. Finally, the tax credits benefit people with disabilities because they earn money, receive benefits, become more independent and included in the community.



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1. https://www.disabilitystatistics.org/StatusReports/2015-PDF/2015-StatusReport_MD.pdf
2. <https://www.statedata.info/bbstates/Maryland.pdf>