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Legislative District 14
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Budget and Taxation Committee
Chair, Capital Budget Subcommittee

Chair, Senate Democratic Caucus



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony of Senator Craig J. Zucker
Senate Bill – 622 – Medicaid Waiver Programs – Waitlist and Registry Reduction
(End of Wait Act)
Budget & Taxation Committee
March 1, 2023
1:00PM
Position: Favorable with Amendments

Good afternoon, Chairman Guzzone, Vice Chairman Rosapepe, and distinguished members of the committee. It is my pleasure to testify today in **support of Senate Bill 622 – Medicaid Waiver Programs – Waitlist and Registry Reduction (End of Wait Act)**.

Senate Bill 622, as amended, opens other Medicaid waiver programs to access the Dedicated Purpose Account, which was always supposed to be available for these waiver programs.

The amendments offered for Senate Bill 622 also clarify that the portion of the Medicaid funds is for expanding provider capacity, which includes hiring and retaining providers, as well as increasing provider rates or any other issues that limit provider capacity.

SB622 and its amendments are vital to addressing the Maryland Department of Health's [report](#) that was submitted to the Maryland General Assembly to reduce the waitlists for these critical waiver programs.

This legislation remains critical to ensuring people with disabilities get the services we already have in place in a timely manner and to make sure we have a workforce that can provide these services. For these reasons, I urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 622. Thank you for your kind consideration.