

# Theresa Robertson

6486 Woodland Forest Drive, Elkridge, MD 21075 | (410) 218-1468  
trobertson@myofficeprofessionals.com

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The Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary  
Chair, House Ways and Means Committee  
Room 131, House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
RE: HB 28-Income Tax-Credit for Caregivers of Senior Family Members

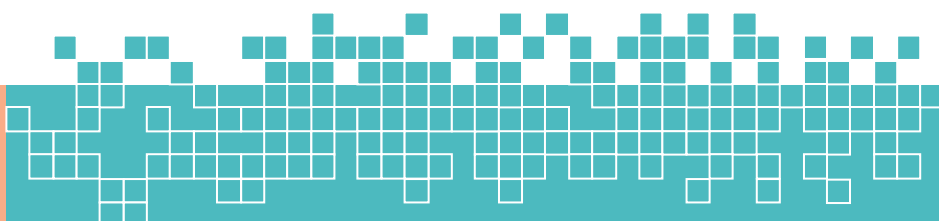
Dear Chairwoman Atterbeary:

Letter of support with amendments for HB28-Income Tax Credit for Caregivers of Senior Family Members. This bill will allow taxpayers who provide care to a qualified older adult with a disability or impairment to receive a credit of up to \$5,000 on their State income tax for out-of-pocket expenses related to supporting the person in the taxpayer's home.

I am one of 53 million family caregivers in the United States who provide unpaid care to a family member. Over the last 26 years, my caregiving responsibilities increased as my opportunities to earn an income decreased. I now work from home full-time to ensure my husband has the care he needs and is safe. We have survived setback after setback in our finances, which depleted my retirement savings and contributions. The pandemic only made the situation worse.

I have had friends who had to pull funds out of their retirement or from the equity in their homes to pay for medical transport vehicles or ambulettes because they had no other options. For this reason, I ask for an amendment to HB28 to "Qualified Expenses" to include reimbursement for qualified non-emergency medical transportation.

Marylanders are selflessly sacrificing their time, resources, and emotional energy to provide the best care for those they hold dear. Nonetheless, this gracious act is not without its financial costs; as family caregivers like myself struggle to keep up with rising expenses, making ends meet has become ever more complex. Fortunately,



HB28 offers an opportunity for relief - providing Marylanders a better chance at ensuring that loved ones are cared for in the safety of their homes.

Sincerely,

*Theresa Robertson*

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