



The Arc Maryland  
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**House Ways and Means Committee**  
**HB 621: State Department of Education – Division of Rehabilitation Services –**  
**Information Posted on Website**

February 22, 2023

**Position: Support with Amendment**

The Arc Maryland is the largest statewide advocacy organization dedicated to the rights and quality of life of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. As named members of the Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS) Commission, we support HB621 which would require DORS to have information on their website about the number of open cases, and to update the number monthly.

DORS is Maryland's Rehabilitation Services system and serves over 7,000 adults ages 25 and older, and approximately 5500 youth and young adults (aged 14-24). Unfortunately, there is a long waiting list for DORS services that is exacerbated by chronic staff vacancy rates, high turnover, and other issues. According to numbers that appeared on the DORS website this past week. There are 2777 people waiting for employment services from DORS.

The public display and update of data will promote transparency. With waiting list numbers available on the website, policymakers and the public will be able to see how many people are waiting for critical services and take action to address the long wait times.

We respectfully request an amendment that would require that the data be desegregated by county, with information presented relative to the population of each county. We also believe it would be important to see data disaggregated by race and type of disability. These data elements will help with planning and outcomes.

21-304.1.7

(A) BEGINNING ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2023, THE DIVISION SHALL PUBLICLY POST ON THE DIVISION'S WEBSITE THE TOTAL NUMBER OF OPEN CASES IN THE DIVISION'S CASELOAD.

**(B) THE CASE NUMBERS SHALL BE DISAGGREGATED BY COUNTY AND THE DIVISION SHALL INCLUDE DEMOGRAPHICS OF WAITING LIST INDIVIDUALS BY RACE AND TYPE OF DISABILITY.**



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**[(B)] (C)** THE DIVISION SHALL UPDATE THE INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTIONS (A) **AND** (B) OF THIS SECTION EVERY MONTH.

For more information, please contact Ande Kolp, Executive Director, The Arc Maryland.  
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