

- **Bill SB0362**

Please remove from this bill any reference to ARTICLE-HEALTH-GENERAL SECTION 7-101 and SECTION 7-409. Leave all the provisions of the Self Direction Act of 2022 (The Act) intact.

Institute a workgroup to study the utilization of funds in self-direction model as compared to provider-manager/traditional model.

- **Reda and Marc Sheinberg**
- **POSITION on BILL: UNFAVORABLE**

We are the parents of participant, Robert Sheinberg, **who** receives DDA Waiver services under the self-directed service model. The changes proposed in the above referenced bill reverse a major provision of the Self Direction Act of 2022. This would allow the DDA to establish an arbitrary limit on Individual and Family Directed Goods and Services (IFDGS).

This cap will have a detrimental effect on our son's independence, community inclusion, health and safety.

IFDGS is part of Robert's approved plan and budget based on his assessed support needs--direct services such as, Personal Supports, Community Integration, Job Supports, and more. The rates for these services were set by DDA and the budget generated for **his** needs should be available to **him**.

Please Note: IFDGS spending does not add additional funds it merely allows access to the approved funds within the budget.

Our son currently uses IFDGS funds to pay for a Community Builder who has helped him build his communication and relationship skills which have helped expand his network of friends. He hired a Day-to-Day Administrator to begin to take on some of the tasks we do so that when we are no longer capable (We are both in our mid 70s), there will be someone on his team to step into the role. I should not need to tell you how putting an arbitrary cap on IFDGS will significantly impact my son now and in the future! Indeed, it will similarly negatively impact Self-Direction now and in the future!

*Reda and Marc Sheinberg, Reda.sheinberg@gmail.com
501 King Farm Blvd Apt 101, Rockville, Md 20850*