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February 12, 2024

The Honorable Joseline Pene-Melnyk Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee House Office Building 6 Bladen St Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Joseline Pena-Melnyk,

On behalf of the majority of the Women Legislators of Maryland members, we are writing to support **HB039 Residential Service Agencies – Reimbursement – Personal Assistance Services**. This legislation has been identified as one of our priorities for the 2024 legislative session.

This bill authorizes the Maryland Department of Health to reimburse a residential service agency for personal assistance services only if the personal assistance services are provided by an individual classified as an employee. This legislation improves the employment conditions of home healthcare workers. The Women Legislators of Maryland fully support this bill because we recognize that women make up a majority of home healthcare workers and therefore, are largely impacted by this legislation.

Sincerely,

Delegate Edith J. Patterson

President