



February 7, 2024

Chairwoman Pena-Melnyk, Vice Chair Cullison, and distinguished members of the Health and Government Operations Committee,

The National Alliance on Mental Illness, Maryland and our 11 local affiliates across the state represent a statewide network of more than 58,000 families, individuals, community-based organizations, and service providers. NAMI Maryland is a non-profit that is dedicated to providing education, support, and advocacy for persons with mental illnesses, their families and the wider community.

NAMI MD believes that community systems must be comprehensive, person-centered, and integrated. 211 Maryland does that by offering information about health care, education, and a broad array of services that support wellness, resiliency, and recovery. We recognize that the use of effective, integrated health and human services resources lead to better health outcomes for those living with mental illness, and, in turn, to better and longer lives. NAMI MD proudly works with 211 Maryland as an outreach partner and collaborator because we know that, together, we can change the face of mental health for Maryland.

This bill updates legislatively language to accurately reflect the transformation of 211 Maryland from a proactive service to a more integrated system for coordinating health and human services.

NAMI MD urges a favorable report.

Kathryn S. Farinholt  
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