



# *Maryland Senior Citizens Action Network*

## **MSCAN**

*AARP Maryland*

*Alzheimer's  
Association,  
Maryland Chapters*

*Baltimore Jewish  
Council*

*Catholic Charities*

*Central Maryland  
Ecumenical Council*

*Church of the Brethren*

*Episcopal Diocese of  
Maryland*

*Housing Opportunities  
Commission of  
Montgomery County*

*Jewish Community  
Relations Council of  
Greater Washington*

*Lutheran Office on  
Public Policy in  
Maryland*

*Maryland Association of  
Area Agencies on Aging*

*Maryland Catholic  
Conference*

*Mental Health  
Association of Maryland*

*Mid-Atlantic LifeSpan*

*National Association of  
Social Workers,  
Maryland Chapter*

*Presbytery of Baltimore*

*The Coordinating  
Center*

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## **Testimony in Support of HB 1122 – Maryland Health Care Commission – Nursing Home - Acquisitions Health and Government Operations Committee March 7, 2024**

The Maryland Senior Citizens Action Network (MSCAN) is a statewide coalition of advocacy groups, service providers, faith-based and mission-driven organizations that supports policies that meet the housing, health and quality of care needs of Maryland's low and moderate-income seniors.

MSCAN Supports HB 1122 because it provides legislative authority to ensure that Maryland's nursing home residents are protected when a nursing home is sold to another entity. It requires that a purchasing organization must submit documentation that they have adequate financial resources to ensure quality care. It must also submit evidence that any nursing homes they own within or outside Maryland are well-maintained, with positive up-to-date inspection reports, licensing and certification surveys, and to show how effectively any deficiencies have been handled. The bill wisely gives oversight responsibility to the Maryland Health Care Commission for the acquisition process.

Uniquely, Maryland's bill requires input from nursing home residents who would be directly affected. It requires that families and nursing home staff to weigh in before an acquisition is approved. It also allows for the involvement of the Attorney General's Office as necessary to ensure that the acquisition is in the public interest.

MSCAN commends the sponsors for development of this legislation which will help to protect Maryland nursing home residents from becoming victims of unscrupulous acquisitions. Unfortunately, there is national evidence that some private equity firms acquire nursing homes just for the revenue they generate, without the intention of utilizing that revenue to ensure continuity in the quality of care for the residents. With approval of this legislation, Maryland will have valuable tools to ensure that our most vulnerable citizens will be protected when they need protection the most.

MSCAN respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 1122. Thank you for your consideration.