



MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION

Serving Veterans through Legislative Advocacy

Statement of CAPT Lynn Nash, PhD, RN
Maryland Military Coalition

HB 032- Income Tax – Caregiver Tax Credit
February 1, 2024

FAVORABLE

Dear Chair Atterbeary e, and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee:

My name is CAPT Nash. I'm the Communications Director for the Maryland Military Coalition, a group of 21 Veteran Service Organizations serving almost half of Maryland veterans.

I'm here to testify on behalf of Senate House Bill 032 – Income Tax – Caregiver Tax Credit. As a nurse, who was a caregiver to both my mother and father, while working full time, I understand the angst that caregivers feel when faced with competing demands.

In my written testimony, I provided you with a lot of statistics. I want to repeat just a couple:

- 53M U.S adults are currently caregivers
- The number of people providing care and working outside the home today is 1 in 5
- 56% of caregivers are women
- Almost 25% of people taking care of an elderly or sick adult have children under the age of 18. The "sandwich generation."
- Today, the average time spent in caregiving has increased to 26 hours per week.
- 29% of caregivers have had to reduce their work hours to provide care, despite the out-of-pocket costs. The average is \$72 hundred or 26% of their total income.

Some average costs in Maryland:

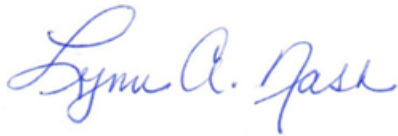
	2021 Costs	Estimated 2031 Costs
• A homemaker or homemaker health aide	\$61,776	\$83,002
• Adult Daycare	\$23,140	\$31,098
When the burden becomes too great		
• Assisted Living	\$58,800	\$79,022
• Nursing home	\$124,100	\$166,780

Who knows what inflation will do to those costs?

Our Maryland veterans and service retirees cannot afford this with an average retired pay of \$32,000. VA Disability won't be enough to cover these costs. Help keep our disabled and elderly veterans at home by giving their caregivers a tax credit.

The Maryland Military Coalition, strongly supports House Bill -032 – Income Tax -Caregiver Tax Credit and asks for your **favorable report**.

Thank you, Senator Benson, for sponsoring this very important legislation.



Lynn A. Nash, PhD, RN, PHCNS-BC, FAAN
CAPTAIN (Ret)., U.S. Public Health Service
Communications Director
Maryland Military Coalition

Attachments:

1. Genworth Maryland Annual Cost of Care
2. Genworth Estimated Maryland Cost of Care 2031



Maryland - State

Annual Cost

2021

Change Since
2020

Home Health Care

Homemaker Services

\$61,776

12.50%

Homemaker Health Aide

\$61,776

8.00%

Based on 44 hours per week by 52 weeks.

Adult Day Health Care

Adult Day Health Care

\$23,140

4.71%

Based on 5 days per week by 52 weeks.

Assisted Living Facility

Private, One Bedroom

\$58,800

-2.00%

Based on 12 months of care, private, one bedroom.

Nursing Home Care

Semi-Private Room

\$124,100

1.49%

Private Room

\$146,000

14.29%

Based on 365 days of care.

The information shown above is based on a specific scenario generated by the [Genworth 2021 Cost of Care](#). Future years are calculated by assuming an annual 3% growth rate. For more information and location comparison, visit genworth.com/costofcare.



Maryland - State

Annual Cost

2021

2031

Home Health Care

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\$61,776

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Homemaker Health Aide

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Based on 44 hours per week by 52 weeks.

Adult Day Health Care

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Assisted Living Facility

Private, One Bedroom

\$58,800

\$79,022

Based on 12 months of care, private, one bedroom.

Nursing Home Care

Semi-Private Room

\$124,100

\$166,780

Private Room

\$146,000

\$196,212

Based on 365 days of care.

The information shown above is based on a specific scenario generated by the [Genworth 2021 Cost of Care](#). Future years are calculated by assuming an annual 3% growth rate. For more information and location comparison, visit genworth.com/costofcare.