

HB450- Maryland Transit Administration - Disability Reduced Fare Program - Renewal for Permanently Disabled Individuals

Requiring the Maryland Transit Administration to automatically renew the Disability Reduced Fare Program certification of an enrollee who is permanently disabled.

Position: Support

Date of Hearing: February 25th at 1:00

Assigned to: Appropriations, Environment and Transportation
Written by Cody Drinkwater, Policy Coordinator,
and Mat Rice, Executive Director - People On the Go of Maryland

Honorable Chairperson, and members of the Appropriations, Environment and Transportation Committee:

People On the Go of Maryland (POG) is a statewide self-advocacy organization, run for and by those with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (IDD), and our mission is to promote self-advocacy throughout the State.

POG respectfully offers this written testimony in support of HB450, for the following reasons:

1. Filling out the paperwork for the Disability Reduced Fare program takes a lot of time and could prove difficult for someone with a disability, especially some one with a permanent disability. This bill would make the Disability Reduced Fare program even more accessible and accommodating for those that are disabled.

2. This bill would also save the state money and time by cutting back on potential bureaucracy. By automatically renewing the program, this bill promotes efficiency.

Therefore, People on the Go respectfully asks for a favorable report on HB450. We would request that any funds appropriated for this Initiative not be taken away from those already specified for existing services and supports for Marylander's with disabilities. Thank you for your time and consideration. Should you have any questions, please contact Cody Drinkwater or Mat Rice.

Thank you,

Cody Drinkwater, Policy Coordinator

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