



MARYLAND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COALITION

Dedicated to the rights and quality of life for people with developmental disabilities in Maryland

Senate Finance Committee

March 04, 2025

SB920: Public Health – Maryland Interested Parties Advisory Group – Establishment Letter of Information



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**Maryland Developmental
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CREATING CHANGE · IMPROVING LIVES

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The Maryland Developmental Disabilities Coalition (DD Coalition) is comprised of five statewide organizations that are committed to improving the opportunities and outcomes for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and their families. We appreciate the interest of the Sponsor to ensure there is a focus on building the direct support workforce AND ensure the rates for these services are sufficient as to ensure appropriate access to Home and Community-Based Services in Maryland. We note there are already two appointed groups that advise the Developmental Disabilities Administration and the Maryland Department of Health on the issues outlined in this proposed legislation.

WHAT does this legislation do?

Establishes the Maryland Interested Parties Advisory Group to ensure adequate access to applicable Home and Community-Based Services and the existence of an adequate direct care workforce in the state as required under 42 C.F.R. § 447.203.

WHAT currently exists and is under legislative consideration?

- 1.) There is a Waiver Advisory Council in place for DDA that is tasked with advising the DDA on workforce issues and access needs.
- 2.) There is a Rate Review Advisory Group with members appointed by the Maryland Department of Health Secretary to advise the Department annually on the sufficiency of rates for DDA Community Supports.

For more information, contact any member of the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Coalition.

