MICHELE GUYTON

Legislative District 42B

Baltimore County

Environment and Transportation Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates 6 Bladen Street, Room 304 Annapolis, Maryland 21401 410-841-3793 · 301-858-3793 800-492-7122 Ext. 3793 Michele.Guyton@house.state.md.us

## THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

March 25, 2025

## Support – HB 1244

## Maryland Developmental Disabilities Administration Waiver Advisory Council - Establishment

Dear Chair Biedle and members of the Finance Committee,

Thank you for your consideration of HB 1244 to establish the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Administration Waiver Advisory Council in state law. This Council already exists as a federal requirement and has met a few times. The purpose of establishing this Council in Maryland law is to empower the state to influence the membership and direction of the Waiver Advisory Council and address the unique concerns of Maryland's developmentally disabled constituents. Certainly, with the potential loss of funding and guidance from our federal administration, this action is more important than ever. A few changes to the Council that are included in this bill are the addition of members and enforceable guidance to the council that expands their work to include improvement of collaboration, communication, and feedback to both the General Assembly and to the stakeholders among other changes.

I respectfully request a favorable report on HB 1244 to support the disabilities community and the DDA in their efforts to work together for improvement of the system in Maryland.

Sincerely,

Delegate Michele Guyton

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