



**BILL NO:** Senate Bill 365  
**TITLE:** Department of Commerce – Nonprofit Organizations Navigator –  
Established  
**COMMITTEE:** Finance  
**HEARING DATE:** February 13, 2025  
**POSITION:** **SUPPORT**

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The Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) is the state domestic violence coalition that brings together victim service providers, allied professionals, and concerned individuals for the common purpose of reducing intimate partner and family violence and its harmful effects on our citizens. **MNADV urges the COMMITTEE to favorably Report on SB 365.**

Senate Bill 365 that would create the position of Nonprofit Organizations Navigator within the Department of Commerce. There are over 40,000 nonprofit organizations in Maryland, that together account for about 13% of all private employment in the state. Small nonprofits have difficulty identifying or accessing government programs or grants opportunities that could provide critical assistance in growing or even sustaining their organizations. Even larger nonprofits that regularly provide important services on behalf of government at all levels often struggle with complexities of the bureaucratic structures that delay approvals of contracts or grant agreements.

A nonprofit navigator will help to resolve these issues, by doing several things, including:

- providing technical assistance in accessing and applying for grant programs;
- working with both nonprofits and governmental units to resolve delays and complexities;
- collecting and sharing information on government programs and funding opportunities; and
- representing nonprofits' interests and concerns as a member of the MD Efficient Grants Application ("MEGA") Council.

For the above stated reasons, the **Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence urges a favorable report on SB365.**

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