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HB 1478 Public Health - Home Health Care Providers – Directory
House Health and Government Operations
March 11, 2025
FAVORABLE

Good afternoon, Chair Peña-Melnyk and members of the Health and Government Operations Committee. My name is Tammy Bresnahan, and I serve as the Senior Director of Advocacy for AARP Maryland. On behalf of over two million Marylanders aged 50 and over, I want to thank you for the opportunity to speak in strong support of **HB 1478**. We also extend our appreciation to the sponsors—Delegates Hill, Kaiser, Kaufman, Terrasa, Valderrama, and Wu—for their leadership on this critical legislation.

HB 1478 would require the Maryland Department of Health to establish and maintain an online directory of home health care providers. This directory would allow individuals and families to search for providers based on specified criteria, ensuring that older Marylanders can make informed decisions about their care.

AARP Maryland is dedicated to ensuring that older residents have access to the care they need to remain in their homes and communities with dignity and independence. An easily accessible, transparent, and user-friendly directory is essential in helping families navigate the complex landscape of home health care services.

As Maryland's population continues to age, the demand for home-based services will only grow. According to AARP research, over 90% of older adults prefer to age in place rather than move into institutional settings. Having access to reliable information about home health care providers will empower older Marylanders and their families to choose quality, trusted care that aligns with their needs.

Moreover, an online directory would promote greater transparency and accountability in the home health care industry, helping to ensure that providers meet established standards and that consumers can make informed choices about their care.

For these reasons, AARP Maryland urges a **favorable report** on HB 1478. Thank you for your time and consideration. For further information, please contact me at tbresnahan@aarp.org or by calling **410-302-8451**.

