

MOTA Maryland Occupational Therapy Association

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Committee: **House Health and Government Operations Committee**

Bill Number: House Bill 430

Title: **Employed Individuals With Disabilities Program - Upper Age Limit -**

Prohibition

Hearing Date: February 12, 2025

Position: Support

The Maryland Occupational Therapy Association (MOTA) supports House Bill 430 -Employed Individuals With Disabilities Program - Upper Age Limit - Prohibition. The bill prohibits the Maryland Department of Health from establishing an upper age limit for eligibility to receive Employed Individuals with Disabilities Program services.

The Employed Individuals with Disabilities (EID) Program is a Medicaid buy-in program for workers with disabilities who would be ineligible for Medicaid because of their earnings. One eligibility requirement of the program is that a participant must be at least 16 years old but not yet 65 years old.

Many people who utilize occupational therapy (OT) services are able to do so because of their participation in the EID Program. OT is very helpful for people who are 65 and older maintain because it can help them maintain their independence and improve their quality of life; benefitting such areas as daily tasks, cognitive changes, mobility issues, physical changes, and even depression. Participation in the EID program goes far in making these daily living services accessible for people who need OT services. By removing the upper age limit for eligibility, this bill would expand and improve the EID Program and the quality of life for older Marylanders.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Michael Paddy at mpaddy@policypartners.net.