



Wes Moore | Governor

Aruna Miller | Lt. Governor

Carmel Roques | Secretary

Date: March 25, 2025

Bill Number: SB748

Bill Title: Public Health - Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias - Information on Prevalence and Treatment

Committee: House Health and Government Operations

Position - INFORMATION

The Department of Aging (MDOA) respectfully submits this informational testimony on Senate Bill (SB) 748 - Public Health - Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias - Information on Prevalence and Treatment.

Pursuant to state legislation in 2023, the Maryland Department of Aging (MDOA) has established a long-term care and dementia care navigation program with effective strategy to address the needs of individuals with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD) and their caregivers in Maryland's rapidly growing older adult population. MDOA conducts this work in partnership with the AAAs and in alignment with Maryland's Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Council and Maryland's State Plan on Aging.

MDOA is acutely aware of Maryland's relatively high rates of Alzheimer's, particularly in Baltimore City and Prince George's County.¹ These rates underscore the need for new concerted, collaborative state action in the future. MDOA remains supportive of the concept of enhanced ADRD prevalence data collection and public reporting.

¹ "Researchers Reveal First Ever County-Level Alzheimer's Prevalence Estimates," Alzheimer's Association Press Release, July 17, 2023, *available at*: https://aaic.alz.org/releases_2023/us-county-level-alzheimers-prevalence-estimates.asp



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If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Nunez, Legislative Director, at andrea.nunez@maryland.gov or (443) 414-8183.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carmel Roques". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Carmel Roques
Secretary
Maryland Department of Aging