

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 Coordinating Center supports *House Bill 430 – Employed Individuals with Disabilities Program – Upper Age Limit – Prohibition.* The bill adds a statutory prohibition on an upper age limit for the Employed Disabilities Program in Maryland.

Our organization provides care coordination to nearly 10,000 Marylanders annually to individuals enrolled in Maryland Medicaid programs, including the Community First Choice Program, and other home and community-based service waivers. Our goal is to support our clients in living as independently as possibility in their own communities. The Employed Individuals with Disabilities Program supports people in having meaningful employment while maintaining their participation in the Medicaid. The Program currently has an upper age limit of 65 years-of-age. This limit forces many people to retire early, even if working is the best option for their health and financial wellbeing. We support the legislation because it recognizes there is not a "one size fits all" approach to the decision to retire.

Please vote favorably on this legislation. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.