



Maryland-National Capital Homecare Association

House Judiciary Committee

House Bill 604 – *Vulnerable and Senior Adults – Theft of Property by Caregiver, Family Member, or Household Member – Prohibition*

February 11, 2025

POSITION: SUPPORT

On behalf of the Maryland-National Capital Homecare Association (MNCHA), whose members include Medicare-certified home health agencies, private duty companies, and durable medical equipment suppliers across the State, we support House Bill 604. This bill prohibits a caregiver, family member, or household member from **knowingly and willfully** obtaining an individual's property if the caregiver, family member, or household member knows or reasonably should know that the individual is a vulnerable or senior adult with the intent to deprive the vulnerable or senior adult of the property.

Elder abuse often affects those with limited resources who may not be able to report abuse on their own. Laws that protect elders can help ensure they are treated with dignity, respect, and care and may serve as a deterrent for potential offenders who may be less inclined to harm someone if the legal ramifications are steep. In addition, providing additional tools for prosecution may assist in closing what can be a “revolving door” when a caregiver can leave one contracted position for another, perpetuating the cycle.

For these reasons, we support House Bill 604.

For More Information:

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