

## MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 22

**TO:** Appropriations Committee Members  
**FROM:** Maryland Department of Labor (MD Labor)  
**DATE:** March 25, 2026  
**BILL:** Department of Disabilities- Housing Programs and Affiliated Foundations- Establishment

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### **MD LABOR POSITION:** SUPPORT

SB22 requires the Department of Disabilities to establish affordable and accessible housing programs. To do so, the Department may establish one or more foundations to work with the Maryland Assistive Technology Program, the Assistive Technology Guaranteed Loan Program, the Office of Disability Employment Advancement and Policy, and the Department's Affordable and Accessible Housing Programs. The goal of these foundations is to enhance accessible information technology, effective use of assistive technology, and environmental adaptations that promote the ability of individuals with disabilities to participate in employment, affordable and accessible housing, and other aspects of daily life.

**The Maryland Department of Labor (MD Labor) supports SB22's goal of establishing foundations and programs that enhance the ability of individuals with disabilities to participate in employment and accessible, affordable housing.** MD Labor's Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning's (DWDAL) mission is to ensure businesses have the skilled workforce they need to compete in the global marketplace, and to build a strong pipeline of qualified workers by reaching jobseekers – especially individuals with barriers to employment, including individuals with disabilities

DWDAL has a Disability and Youth Services Coordinator who supports workforce development activities across the State for individuals with disabilities. The Coordinator who currently works closely with the Department of Disabilities would be able to work with the foundations formed by SB22. MD Labor is committed to working with the Department of Disabilities to increase access to job training services for individuals with disabilities, ensuring that *all* Marylanders have access to pathways to family-sustaining careers that MD Labor's services offer.

The Department respectfully requests a favorable report on SB22. For questions, please contact Andrew Fulginiti at [Andrew.Fulginiti@maryland.gov](mailto:Andrew.Fulginiti@maryland.gov).