



Managed By LifeSpan

Senate Finance Committee

February 24, 2026

Senate Bill 555 – *Health – Dementia Services and Brain Health Program and Clinical Toolkit*

POSITION: SUPPORT

On behalf of the LifeSpan Network, the Maryland-National Capital Homecare Association, and the Maryland Association for Medical Adult Day Services, we **support** Senate Bill 555, which alters the duties of the Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Council to include an examination of the capacity of health care providers to deliver care to certain individuals and to identify methods by which the State can assist health care providers in delivering care to certain individuals. The bill also establishes the Dementia Services and Brain Health Program in the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) to lead the State's public health efforts relating to brain health and dementia and requires MDH, in partnership with the Department of Aging, the Council, and other entities, to develop a clinical toolkit for dementia care for health care providers.

Given the prevalence of dementia and Alzheimer's, we support the need to ensure that providers and community programs have the resources and tools to appropriately care for residents and clients. The above-referenced organizations do caution regarding recreating the wheel in the development of a toolkit and recommend a review of what may currently exist.

For these reasons, we urge a favorable report.

For more information call:

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