

March 3, 2026

Chair Pamela Beidle
Senate Finance Committee
3 East Miller Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB742/HB1445 – Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Developmental Disabilities Administration - Home- and Community-Based Services Eligibility Determinations (Maryland Protecting People With Disabilities Act)

Dear Chair Beidle and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Fello, we write in support of **SB742/HB1445 – Maryland Protecting People With Disabilities Act**.

Across Maryland, Fello is building communities where people belong. With a team of more than 650 employees, Fello supports over 5,000 people with disabilities each year – creating opportunities that empower people to live the lives they choose. From advancing equity and respect to expanding access and connection, inclusion is at the heart of everything we do.

SB742/HB1445 ensures that Maryland aligns with federal Medicaid requirements to protect people with disabilities from improper terminations of Medicaid and home- and community-based waiver services. By strengthening eligibility and redetermination procedures under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, the bill promotes continuity of care and safeguards against wrongful disenrollment. These protections are critical to maintaining stability for people with disabilities, their families, and the community providers who rely on consistent funding and service authorization to deliver essential supports.

The bill also repeals the current 90-day time limit for individuals receiving Developmental Disabilities Administration services to appeal a loss of eligibility, recognizing that complex systems and administrative barriers can delay timely action. Additionally, it prohibits procedural disenrollment from Medicaid or waiver services solely on technical or administrative grounds, helping ensure that eligible individuals are not unfairly cut off from vital services and reducing unnecessary service disruptions.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge a favorable report on SB742/HB1445.

Sincerely,


Jonathon Rondeau
President & CEO

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