



March 30, 2026

Testimony in Support of HB 1625

On behalf of the Rare & Ready Coalition, we appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 1625. Our coalition represents a broad network of advocates committed to improving outcomes for individuals living with rare diseases through earlier diagnosis.

HB 1625 takes important steps to strengthen Maryland's newborn screening program by ensuring it is adequately funded and aligned with the federal Recommended Uniform Screening Panel (RUSP). Establishing sustainable funding for screening, laboratory operations, and follow-up care is essential to maintaining a reliable and responsive system.

As innovation in diagnostics and treatment continues to accelerate, it is critical that state screening programs keep pace. Each newly added condition represents a meaningful opportunity to identify a child earlier and improve long-term health outcomes. Without timely implementation, these opportunities can be missed.

For these reasons, the Rare & Ready Coalition respectfully urges support for HB 1625. This legislation represents a critical investment in public health, health equity, and the future of children and families impacted by rare diseases.

Sincerely,
Rare & Ready Coalition Members