

# Maryland Department of Health Rare Disease Advisory Council

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Meena Seshamani, M.D., Ph.D., Secretary

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The Honorable Pamela Beidle, Chair  
The Honorable Antonio Hayes, Vice Chair  
Senate Finance Committee  
3 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

February 19, 2026

Re:SB583  
Favorable

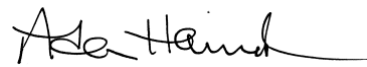
Dear Senator Beidle and Finance Committee members,

I am writing on behalf of the Maryland Rare Disease Advisory Council (RDAC) in support of SB583 which requires the Deputy Secretary for Developmental Disabilities to provide notice to the public before making changes to the Self-Directed Services Manual and allows for public comment. The RDAC is a legislated Governor's Advisory Council tasked with improving access to care and outcomes for people in Maryland living with Rare Disease.

Hearing from the public and especially those who use these services about the implications of proposed changes is essential to open government and meeting the needs of people living in Maryland. Many individuals living with rare diseases are medically complex and also have developmental disabilities. Hearing from their caretakers is important to prevent any unintended harmful consequences of proposed changes.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions about this bill or about rare disease.

Sincerely,



Ada Hamosh, MD, MPH,  
Chair