

Date: February 25, 2026
To: Senator Pamela Beidle, Chair, Senate Finance Committee
From: Rob Malone, CEO, The Arc Prince George's County
Re: Support - SB786 Transportation of Persons With Disabilities - Transportation Network Companies – Requirements

Thank you, Chair Beidle and committee members, for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB786.

As the CEO of The Arc Prince George's County, I hear firsthand about the challenges faced by individuals relying on paratransit services. The most common concerns I hear are delays in pick-up times, extended wait times and long routes, which disrupt schedules and create significant anxiety for people with disabilities. Additionally, late arrivals for critical appointments, such as medical visits, can lead to costly consequences.

SB786 provides a much-needed solution, giving local transit agencies an additional tool to meet the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities. This bill would also align Maryland with other transit systems in the greater Washington area—such as MetroAccess and Uber Dispatch—that already integrate alternative transportation options to address demand.

For areas with limited paratransit drivers, this bill is especially crucial. It offers a practical, scalable solution to help ensure timely, reliable service.

Transportation is a key social determinant of health and wellness. We must take every reasonable action to address these transportation barriers, ensuring equal access for all. I stand in strong support of SB786, and I am pleased to share that self-advocates from our community are also fully behind this effort.

I urge you to move this bill forward with a favorable report. Thank you.