

TERESA S. WOORMAN
Legislative District 16
Montgomery County

Health Committee

Subcommittees

Elder and Long-Term Care

Maternal, Infant, and Child Health

Public Health and
Minority Health Disparities



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 210
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3454
800-492-7122 Ext. 3454
Teresa.Woorman@house.maryland.gov

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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Chair Senator Pamela Beidle
Vice Chair Senator Antonio Hayes
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Finance Committee.

For the record, I'm Delegate Teresa Woorman representing District 16. Thank you for the opportunity to present House Bill 1042.

This bill is about clarifying what we already worked on and passed last year. Under Chapter 478 of 2025, we required structural racism training for certain health occupations. As implementation moves forward, HB 1042 makes explicit what was always the intent: that this training be developed and offered at no cost to the State, using external funding sources such as grants, like the grant the Maryland Nurses Association received from the American Nurses Association.

In other words, this bill does not expand the mandate. It does not create a new program. It simply clarifies that the training must be funded through outside resources, not State general funds. We all know the budget pressures we are under this year. If we are going to require something, we have a responsibility to be clear about how it will be paid for. This bill ensures we can continue advancing meaningful education around health equity while being fiscally responsible and protecting Maryland taxpayers.

We also know that health disparities are real and well-documented. Making sure providers have access to high-quality, expert-driven training strengthens our workforce and improves patient care. HB 1042 keeps that commitment in place while tightening up the funding language so there is no ambiguity.

This is a clean-up and clarification bill that reflects the intent of the General Assembly when we acted last year.

I respectfully ask for a favorable report.