

January 28, 2026

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

RE: SB199 – Individuals With Disabilities and Service-Disabled Veterans Boating Fund - Eligible Companions

Dear Chair Beidle and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Fello, we write in support of ***SB199 – Individuals With Disabilities and Service-Disabled Veterans Boating Fund - Eligible Companions.***

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. One powerful way this comes to life is through Fello Communities: beautiful, safe, and accessible rental housing that offers choice and stability for residents across income levels, from affordable to market-rate homes.

SB 199 expands access for people with disabilities by providing funding opportunities for eligible companions through the Individuals With Disabilities and Service-Disabled Veterans Boating Fund. The Fund allows individuals with disabilities or service-disabled veterans to participate in water-dependent activities such as boating, sailing, kayaking, canoeing, and paddleboarding. By including companions, the bill promotes inclusion, shared experiences, and greater access to recreational opportunities on Maryland’s waterways.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge a favorable report on SB199.

Sincerely,



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President & CEO

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