



February 17, 2026

Dear Chair Wells, Vice Chair Kerr, members of the Government, Labor and Elections Committee:

I am writing to ask you to support HB 724 (Delegate Lesley Lopez) – Employment Discrimination, Caregiver Status. This bill would prohibit discrimination of a caregiver who is caring for a parent, child, relative or another person based on the caregiver’s race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, marital status, military status, age or disability.

Caregiving comes in all forms and with different sets of needs and expectations. Caregivers are often not paid at industry standards, or not paid at all if they are a family member of the person receiving care (in many cases). Caregivers provide a noble and challenging service, and they should be recognized more for their work and efforts, and they should be allowed to do their work without harassment or discrimination.

The majority of the population will be caregivers at some point, therefore it is necessary to protect people who become caregivers – whether it be professionally trained and serve with organizations or assisted living communities, or whether it be a family member giving care to another family member or friend.

Again, I ask you (on behalf of the Anne Arundel County Commission for Women) to give HB 724 a favorable report and allow the bill to advance in the legislative process.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Sari Wisch, Vice Chair
Anne Arundel County Commission for Women

The Anne Arundel County Commission for Women was created in 1975 to serve as a resource and advocacy group for women of the County and to advise the County Executive on issues of significance to women. The Commissioners, comprised of women with different backgrounds and occupations, represent various areas of the County. The County Executive appoints Commissioners who are dedicated to improving the quality of life for the women of our County.