



BILL NO: House Bill 147
TITLE: Nonprofit Organizations Navigator – Termination Provision – Repeal
COMMITTEE: Government, Labor and Elections
HEARING DATE: January 27, 2026
POSITION: FAVORABLE

The Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) is the state domestic violence coalition that works to lead diverse community partners toward the common purpose of reducing the occurrence and impact of intimate partner violence. MNADV urges a favorable report for House Bill 147.

The Nonprofit Organizations Navigator (established by SB 365 / HB 541 in 2025) was created to act as a bridge between Maryland's state agencies and the nonprofit sector. Its primary value lies in helping organizations - especially smaller grassroots groups - overcome the "bureaucratic wall" that often prevents them from accessing state funds.

The Navigator becomes even more critical if HB 122 passes. Nonprofits will face a "hard stop" on funding if their paperwork isn't perfect; the Navigator is the office specifically designed to help them fix those paperwork issues before they lose their grants.

House Bill 147 would repeal the sunset on the position of the Nonprofit Navigator in the Dept. of Commerce, created just last session. The Nonprofit Navigator is already providing:

- Assistance with State grant applications and review of final drafts of all other proposals.
- Resolution of procedural roadblocks after an award is made, especially payment delays or contractual/administrative snags, with awarded State grants.
- Grant Search Assistance and one-on-one support to assist nonprofits with finding relevant Federal, State, Local, and Private funding opportunities for their mission.

The Navigator also now provides access to a monthly newsletter including listing current state grant opportunities on its web page. The value of the nonprofit navigator cannot be overstated.

For all of the above reasons, MNADV urges this committee a favorable vote on House Bill 147.

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