



April 7, 2026

Senate Bill 69 - Nonprofit Organizations Navigator – Termination Provision – Repeal

House Government, Labor, and Elections Committee

Position: SUPPORT

On behalf of the Maryland Association of Resources for Families and Youth (MARFY), we respectfully submit this testimony in support of Senate Bill 69.

MARFY represents licensed nonprofit child-placing agencies and community-based providers delivering foster care, treatment foster care, group homes, and independent living services through more than 200 programs across Maryland. Our members serve children, youth, and families with complex behavioral health needs and rely heavily on strong partnerships with State agencies to deliver critical services.

Senate Bill 69 would repeal the termination provision for the Nonprofit Organizations Navigator within the Department of Commerce, ensuring the continuation of a role that has already proven to be highly effective and impactful for Maryland’s nonprofit community.

Since the position was filled last fall, the Nonprofit Navigator has made meaningful progress in strengthening communication and coordination between State agencies and nonprofit organizations. Through direct outreach, the development of accessible resources, and ongoing engagement, this role has already improved nonprofits’ ability to navigate State processes and access funding opportunities.

The Nonprofit Navigator is currently providing:

- Assistance with State grant applications, including review of proposals and guidance on submission requirements;
- Support in resolving procedural and administrative barriers following grant awards, including payment delays and contracting challenges;
- Grant search assistance and individualized support to help nonprofits identify Federal, State, local, and private funding opportunities aligned with their missions.

For MARFY members who are on the front lines of serving Maryland’s most vulnerable youth these supports are not simply administrative conveniences; they directly impact the ability to sustain services, maintain staffing, and ensure continuity of care for children and families.



In addition, the Navigator serves as a liaison to grant-making agencies and plays a key role within the Maryland Efficient Grant Application (MEGA) Council, helping to identify systemic challenges and improve customer service across agencies. This coordination is critical for providers that often manage multiple funding streams while delivering essential services.

Allowing this position to sunset would disrupt the progress that has already been made and create unnecessary barriers for nonprofits that depend on efficient and responsive State partnerships. Continuing this role ensures that Maryland's nonprofit sector an essential component of the State's service delivery system remains supported, accessible, and effective.

For these reasons, MARFY respectfully urges a favorable report on Senate Bill 69.

For more information call or email:

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