

Date: March 10, 2026

House Health Committee

**Re: HB1434 Maryland Department of Health - Caregiver
Resource Webpage - Establishment**

Position: SUPPORT

Dear Madam Chair Bagnall, Vice Chair Cullison, and
Members of the Committee:

My name is Mackenzie, and I am a mother of a 12-year-old medically complex child named Adelaide. I am writing to express my support for House Bill 1434, which would establish a centralized caregiver resource webpage to help families easily access services, supports, and guidance available across Maryland.

I am the primary caregiver for my daughter, who lives with SCN8A Epilepsy and multiple other comorbidities. Like many caregivers, I have spent countless hours navigating fragmented systems just to find basic information about available supports, programs, and services. Between managing medical appointments, therapies, school accommodations, and daily care, it can feel overwhelming to know where to turn. A centralized

caregiver webpage would provide families with a clear starting point, making a tangible difference in our daily lives.

My daughter's health alone should qualify her for lifelong disability, but due to the complexities and lack of clear answers available on any website or through call centers, she still does not receive benefits. Every month I am tasked with a never-ending search for contact information to get basic answers — and quite frankly, it should not be this difficult.

House Bill 1434 recognizes that caregivers are often responsible for navigating multiple complex systems at once — including health care, disability services, aging services, education, and community resources.

A centralized caregiver webpage would provide a clear and reliable starting point where families can quickly identify available programs, understand eligibility requirements, and connect with appropriate resources.

For caregivers already balancing work, family responsibilities, and caregiving duties, simplifying access to information can make a meaningful difference.

Caregivers often do not know where to start when searching for services. Information is scattered across many different agencies and websites. For example, just last month I spent several days trying to locate the correct

contact to request routine support for my daughter's therapy — time I could have spent caring for her. A centralized webpage would help families find the right resources faster.

Caregivers like myself frequently spend hours researching programs, calling agencies, and navigating different systems. Simplifying access to information helps reduce unnecessary stress and allows caregivers to focus on providing care.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to issue a favorable report on House Bill 1434. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

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