



Maryland Occupational Therapy Association

PO Box 36401, Towson, Maryland 21286 ♦ mota-members.com

Committee:	House Health Committee
Bill Number:	House Bill 1445
Title:	Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Developmental Disabilities Administration - Home- and Community-Based Services Eligibility Determinations (Maryland Protecting People With Disabilities Act)
Hearing Date:	March 10, 2026
Position:	Support

The Maryland Occupational Therapy Association (MOTA) supports House Bill 1445 - Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Developmental Disabilities Administration - Home- and Community-Based Services Eligibility Determinations (Maryland Protecting People With Disabilities Act). This bill would reform how Maryland determines and maintains eligibility for Medicaid and Developmental Disabilities Administration home- and community-based services. The bill limits the state's ability to terminate or procedurally disenroll individuals from services for technical or paperwork-related reasons and adjusts rules around eligibility redeterminations and appeals. The bill seeks to protect individuals with disabilities from losing critical services due to administrative barriers and to promote continuity of care.

Occupational therapy practitioners support the bill because it helps prevent clients from losing Medicaid or home- and community-based services due to administrative or paperwork issues. Many occupational therapy clients rely on these services for daily living supports, assistive technology, caregiver assistance, and community participation; interruptions can quickly lead to functional decline, hospitalization, or institutionalization. By strengthening eligibility protections and reducing procedural disenrollment, the bill promotes continuity of care, stability in the home environment, and sustained participation in meaningful activities all core goals of occupational therapy practice.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Michael Paddy at mpaddy@policypartners.net.