



BILL: HB 1423

POSITION: LOI – Letter of Information

COMMITTEE: Health

DATE: March 6, 2026

SUBMITTED BY: Maryland Department of Disabilities
217 East Redwood Street, Suite 1300, Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Chair Bagnall, Vice Chair Cullison, and Committee Members,

The Maryland Department of Disabilities offers this letter of information for **HB 1423, Maryland Department of Health - Workgroup on Home- and Community-Based Services**. This bill would create a workgroup comprised of certain State agency representatives and stakeholders to examine, evaluate, and make recommendations on specified home- and community-based services (HCBS) programs operated by Maryland Department of Health. As proposed, the focus of the workgroup is on representation from agencies and providers that serve older adults.

MDOD was created in 2004 as a cross-disability, Cabinet-level department to advise the Governor and generally represent the policy interests of all people with disabilities, of all ages, in State government. In this capacity, we would like to provide the following information.

The HCBS programs identified in HB 1323 support people with disabilities in a broad range of ages, generally either all ages (0+) or all adults (16, 17, or 18+). Using FY 2024 data from the Hilltop Institute, we found the following percentages of the programs' participants are under the age of 65:

- Community First Choice: 53% of 23,300 service users
- Community Personal Assistance Services: 52% of 749 participants
- Community Options Waiver: 27% of 4,487 participants
- Increased Community Services Program: 18 total participants, age breakdown unavailable
- Medical Day Services: 19% of 5,231 participants

We also note that 34% of individuals who are dually enrolled in Medicare and Medicaid (including those enrolled in HealthChoice) are under age 65.

Thank you for reviewing our letter of information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol A. Beatty".

Carol A. Beatty
Secretary, Department of Disabilities

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