



Wes Moore | Governor

Aruna Miller | Lt. Governor

Carmel Roques | Secretary

Date: March 6, 2026

Bill Number: HB 1423

Bill Title: Maryland Department of Health - Workgroup on Home and Community-Based Services

Committee: Health Committee

Position: Letter of Concern

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The Maryland Department of Aging thanks the committee for the opportunity to provide this letter of concern on HB 1423 - Maryland Department of Health - Workgroup on Home and Community-Based Services.

The Maryland Department of Aging (MDOA) serves as Maryland's State Unit of Aging, administering federal funding for core programs, overseeing the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) network at the local level that provides services, and planning for Maryland's older adult population. MDOA recently published the Longevity-Ready Maryland Plan, a 10-year roadmap for preparing Maryland for increasingly longer lives and its rapidly growing older adult population.

This legislation would create a new, time-limited workgroup focused on the five Medicaid waivers most heavily utilized by older adults to access home and community-based supportive services. MDOA would have a designee on this workgroup, which it could provide with existing resources. MDOA appreciates this legislation's intent to improve access to these Medicaid waivers for the benefit of more older Marylanders, which is needed. However, creating this workgroup would be duplicative of significant existing work by the Maryland Departments of Aging and Health.



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In light of current projected general fund deficits in fiscal 2027 and beyond, MDOA urges caution in passing legislation that may significantly impact the state's budget. MDOA is deferential to the fiscal and operational impacts shared by the Maryland Department of Health, could create particularly during this time of intense federally-mandated changes as a result of H.R. 1. MDOA and MDH have also done considerable work together in the Medicaid waiver services space, and continue to collaborate regularly for some of the purposes identified by this legislation. More time to continue that work internally within agencies, without the time commitment of participating in this workgroup, is a better use of precious state resources.

MDOA looks forward to continuing to engage with the sponsor, state agency partners, and other key stakeholders around these important concepts.

If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Nunez, Legislative Director, at [andrea.nunez@maryland.gov](mailto:andrea.nunez@maryland.gov) or (443) 414-8183. Thank you for your consideration.