

MICHELE GUYTON  
Legislative District 42B  
Baltimore County

—  
*Vice Chair*  
Environment and Transportation  
Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates  
6 Bladen Street, Room 251  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3793  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3793  
Michele.Guyton@house.maryland.gov

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 12, 2026

Favorable – HB 1383 – Children in Need of Assistance – Permanency Plan Requirements

Dear Chair Bartlett, Vice Chair Davis and Members of Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for your consideration of HB 1383 – Children in Need of Assistance – Permanency Plan Requirements. Children in foster care are not all the same, and their needs cannot be addressed with a one-size-fits-all approach. Many of these young people have experienced trauma, instability, and loss. HB 1383 helps ensure that permanency planning focuses on the unique needs of every individual child. Review hearings would not only consider the timely placement of a child into a permanent setting, but would be required to evaluate determinants of success such as health, education, safety, emotional support, and stability in their reports. HB1383 helps ensure that children in care are seen as individuals with unique needs, not just cases moving through a system as quickly as possible.

This bill also recognizes that foster youth in transition need real preparation for life beyond the state care. It requires attention to the availability of identification documents, access to health care, stable housing plans, and support for education, training, or employment. These are the basic building blocks that help young people succeed as adults. By strengthening accountability and focusing on each child's well-being and future independence, HB 1383 helps ensure that Maryland's foster care system is not just managing placements, but truly supporting young people as they grow into adulthood.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Delegate Michele Guyton".

Delegate Michele Guyton