



Wes Moore | Governor

Aruna Miller | Lt. Governor

Carmel Roques | Secretary

Date: February 3, 2026

Bill Number: **HB282**

Bill Title: Adult Protective Services - Modifications

Committee: House Judiciary

**MDOA Position: FAVORABLE**

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The Department of Aging (MDOA) thanks the Chair and Committee members for the opportunity to submit this favorable testimony for House Bill (HB) 282 - Adult Protective Services - Modifications.

The Maryland Department of Aging (MDOA) serves as Maryland's State Unit on Aging, administering federal and state funding for core programs, overseeing the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) network at the local level that provides supportive services to older adults, and planning for Maryland's growing older adult population. MDOA and AAAs work to prevent all forms of abuse and neglect of older adults through: the work of the Office of the Long Term Care Ombudsman, public elder abuse awareness efforts, funding legal aid service organizations for older adults who are victims of elder abuse and exploitation, and serving as the public guardians for older adults over 65 where no one else suitable is available. MDOA's Maryland Access Point service is a wide-ranging single point of entry for services and options counseling for older adults, caregivers and other community members. As mandated reporters, MAP staff within AAAs regularly make reports of suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of older adults to local Adult Protective Services investigators based on information shared during MAP interactions with older adults.



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MDOA commends the Maryland Department of Human Services for bringing forward HB 282. This bill represents an important step towards full compliance with the first ever new federal rule governing adult protective services from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's Administration for Community Living. It also provides critical updates to Maryland's existing statutory language that will strengthen adult protective services investigations going forward.

This bill directly aligns with MDOA's Longevity-Ready Maryland Plan<sup>1</sup>, which will work to make Maryland more prepared for our increasingly longer lives over the next 10 years.

For these reasons, the Department of Aging respectfully urges a **favorable** report for HB 282. 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.

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<sup>1</sup> MD Department of Aging website, "Longevity Ready Maryland," *available at*: <https://lrm.maryland.gov/>