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March 3, 2022

Delegate Shane Pendergrass, Chair House Health and Government Operations Committee House Office Building, Room 241 Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Testimony **IN SUPPORT** of HB 1051: Elderly Individuals – Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services Pilot Program and Task Force

Dear Chair Pendergrass, Vice Chair Pena-Melnyk, and Members of the Committee,

I commend Delegate Kelly for introducing House Bill 1051 and her consistent advocacy for healthcare initiatives while championing services for those who need it most. This legislation would establish the Adult Day Health Care Services Plot Program in Howard County and Montgomery County and integrate the provisions of medical adult day care services, home health services, and medical services provided under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.

Howard County is proud to be an Age-Friendly community, a designation of the World Health Organization and AARP which recognizes our commitment to leveraging government and community resources to provide the best life for our ever-growing senior population. Since December 2019, we have been implementing an Age-Friendly Action Plan by following a dynamic road map that promises that Howard County residents can live in a friendly community aware of the needs and desires of its citizens in every stage of their lives.

The bill also establishes the Task Force on the Howard County and Montgomery County Adult Day Health Care Services Pilot Program, which will examine the current delivery of medical adult day care services in the State, evaluate the efficacy of utilizing the integrator model, measure effects of the program, and report on its findings.

House Bill 1051 builds on our blueprint to enable seniors to live at home independently, age in place and keep them from entering acute care settings through integrating the provision of medical adult day care, home health services, and medical services. While this program shares many goals with Howard County's Action Plan, the Program and creation of a Task Force will allow us to understand how individuals can remain as healthy, active, and independent as possible.

I welcome your support and urge a favorable report on HB 1051.

All the Best,

Calvin Ball

Howard County Executive