

Fight for \$15--

and fight for the developmental disabilities community too!

Support SB543/HB 664

- Increases the minimum wage to \$15/hr by 2023
- Also increases funding for DD community supports as the minimum wage increases, so that direct support jobs don't become minimum wage jobs!

Why does this matter?

~Developmental disability services rely on funding provided by the State Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) combined with federal Medicaid matching funds.

~DD services are vital to the 24,000 Marylanders who receive them, providing supports that range from personal care to job coaching.

~DD supports also enable families to work and remain economically self-sufficient.

~Unlike other businesses, DDA-licensed providers are not able to pass a cost increase on to people who receive supports.

~**Without an increase for DD community services as the minimum wage increases, the *starting wage for direct support staff will drop below the state minimum wage within 1 year!***

SB543/HB664, with Sen. Rich Madaleno and Del. Shelly Hettleman as lead sponsors, is the *only* minimum wage bill to address the critical need for funding for DD services.

~Community service providers are required by law to protect the health and safety of the people with disabilities they support.

~Without community supports, the only alternative is more costly and segregated state institutions.

HEARINGS

HB 664
February 27: Economic Matters
1pm

SB 543
March 8: Finance Committee
1pm

For more information, contact
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