



Maryland Senior Citizens Action Network

MSCAN

AARP Maryland

*Alzheimer's
Association,
Maryland Chapters*

*Baltimore Jewish
Council*

Catholic Charities

*Central Maryland
Ecumenical Council*

Church of the Brethren

*Episcopal Diocese of
Maryland*

*Housing Opportunities
Commission of
Montgomery County*

*Jewish Community
Relations Council of
Greater Washington*

*Lutheran Office on
Public Policy in
Maryland*

*Maryland Association of
Area Agencies on Aging*

*Maryland Catholic
Conference*

*Mental Health
Association of Maryland*

Mid-Atlantic LifeSpan

NAACP - Maryland

*National Association of
Social Workers,
Maryland Chapter*

Presbytery of Baltimore

*The Coordinating
Center*

*MSCAN Co-Chairs:
Carol Lienhard
Kimberly Burton
443-901-1550 x 210*

HB 1147 - Places of Public Accommodation and Public Buildings - Single-Occupancy Public Restrooms - Availability (The Accessible to All Act) Senate Economic Matters Committee SUPPORT

The Maryland Senior Citizens Action Network (MSCAN) is a statewide coalition of advocacy groups, service providers, faith-based and mission-driven organizations that supports policies that meet the housing and care needs of Maryland's low and moderate-income seniors.

MSCAN supports the spirit of HB 1147 which seeks to meet the needs of individuals seeking restrooms in public buildings which are gender-inclusive.

We especially recognize the way in which this bill can be helpful to frail seniors who may need the assistance of a caregiver of the opposite gender - like a daughter helping her elderly father, a son assisting his elderly mother, or any other caregiver who may be of a gender opposite that of the vulnerable senior.

We imagine the distress of a caregiver who is unable to accompany his or her elder who requires support with toileting if restrooms are marked for the opposite gender. This bill would welcome individuals of any gender to use these single-occupancy restroom facilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill for the benefit of frail elders and their caregivers.