



## ***The Caring Hands of Maryland's Nursing Assistants***

**Press Release:**     *April 20, 2021*

**Subject:**            *State of Maryland Legislation*

**From:**                *Maryland Gerontological Nursing Group (MGNG)*

### GOOD NEWS FROM THE MARYLAND LEGISLATURE

In the 2021 session, the House and Senate passed bills to fix the problem of misclassification of home care workers/personal care aides as independent contractors.

SB 384 - <https://openstates.org/md/bills/2021/SB384/>

HB 652 - <https://legiscan.com/MD/text/HB652/id/2357234>

Advocates report that, “We made huge strides educating legislators about the problem of home care quality generally and misclassification specifically. [This] increases our leverage on future bills.”

It is expected that the Governor will sign the bills into law. As a result, home care workers will be more likely to get the pay and benefits that they have been denied for too long.

Special thanks to the various groups that worked diligently to make this happen.

The coalition of the bills’ supporters includes AARP-MD, Alzheimer’s Association-MD and DC, Marylanders for Patient Rights, Maryland Centers for Independent Living, National Domestic Workers Alliance, Marylanders Against Poverty, Caroline Center, the Maryland Center on Economic Policy, the Office of the Attorney General and the Legislative Black Caucus as well as several Residential Service Agency owners who employ home care workers.

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*The Maryland Gerontological Nursing Group is incorporated in the State of Maryland and registered under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act (#45214). We have been honoring Nursing Assistants for the past 15 years and will continue to do so. For more information, visit our website at [www.marylandcaringhands.com](http://www.marylandcaringhands.com).*

*For detailed information about the challenges facing the direct care workforce in elder care and disability services, visit PHI at [phinational.org](http://phinational.org).*