**Meeting Notes – Governor's Workgroup for SBSLI**
**Monday, December 1, 2025**
**1:00–2:00 PM**
**Meeting Start:** 1:17 PM; ended 2:03 PM

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**Attendance Updates**

- Visitor designations were updated by adding **"Visitor"** next to applicable names.
- Workgroup Member designations were updated by adding **"Workgroup Member"** next to applicable names.
- Advisory Member designations were updated by adding **"Advisory"** next to applicable names.

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**In Attendance**

**Lead**

- Laura Gyamfi, Senior Policy Advisor
- Hannah Dier, Deputy Legislative Officer

**Workgroup Members - Introduced Self and Shared Brief Goals**

1. Juliana Apfel, SBSLI
2. Leslie Puzio, SBSLI
3. Tina Joyner, MDAD
4. Megan George
5. Tiasha Bera
6. William 'Bill' Millos
7. Jake Whitaker, MHA
8. Pamela Ortiz, Judiciary
9. Mary Pat Fannon, PSSAM
10. Sam Mathias, MABE
11. Jason Conrad
12. Dave Coyne
13. Caitlin Comstock
14. Betty Colonomos

**Advisory Members**

- Senator Nancy King (Patty Horton attended on behalf of Senator King)
- Delegate Heather Bagnall
- Ethan Sonnestrahl, AAG
- Usherla DeBerry, ODHH

**Additional Attendee**

- Jennifer Katz, Deputy Legal Counsel in the Governor's Office
- With approximately 70 viewers as visitors

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**Next Meeting**

- **Tentative Date:** Monday, December 8, 2025
- **Time:** Possibly 1:00 PM or an alternate evening time
- **Expectation:** Workgroup members and interpreters should arrive **30 minutes prior** to the scheduled start time.

In the meeting leaders, Hannah and Laura granted time for each workgroup and advisory member to provide an introduction. GODHH recommends for the minutes if the workgroup members would like to add their brief statement on their goal(s) to be included to email us at gov.odhh@maryland.gov by Wed., Dec. 3, 2025 at noon before we post the minutes on our website. Otherwise, please let us know your feedback. GODHH team will provide support for logistics for signing on managing the workgroup as well as the viewers now that we know we are having viewers for this meeting.

**Additionally sharing**

Hannah and Laura reached out to stakeholders to gauge interest and availability to participate in the workgroup. As noted in that initial email, "It is possible that all those interested in participating may not be included in the working group due to the number of individuals who have expressed interest. In forming the workgroup, they will ensure diverse representation of stakeholders including the Deaf community, sign language interpreters, and implementing agencies."

As of the end of the day Friday, November 21, 2025, they received interest from over 40 individuals. We have limited the workgroup size in order to ensure the group can function and communicate effectively and efficiently, while balancing the need for diverse representation. Although we could not include everyone, we encourage you to still view workgroup meetings and submit written comments at any point in time.