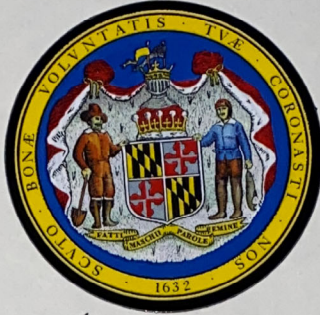


The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

**OMBUDS DAY
OCTOBER 14, 2021**

- WHEREAS,** *The role of the ombuds originated over 200 years ago in Sweden, designated as a governmental official charged with advocating on behalf of citizens with complaints or problems with the government; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Today's ombuds are confidential, independent, and impartial conflict management professionals who work to address individual and systemic issues outside of the complementary to formal channels such as human resources, grievances, complaints, and legal action; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Ombuds work in a wide variety of organizations within the state of Maryland and worldwide, including universities and colleges, governments at all levels, healthcare institutions, corporations, financial institutions, for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, the media, and international organizations; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Ombuds programs provide a valuable form of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and significant value to the constituents and institutions they serve, and are an essential supplement to formal conflict management processes that address allegedly inappropriate or wrongful conduct; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Recognition of this day is an opportunity to increase awareness and understanding of the profession, highlight the value ombuds bring to the organizations and constituents they serve, and encourage use of ombuds programs.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim OCTOBER 14, 2021 as OMBUDS DAY in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 14th day of October
Two Thousand and twenty-one

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

Byrd H. Lathrop
Lt. Governor

John C. Womack
Secretary of State