



JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR.  
*County Executive*

CHARLES R. CONNER III, ESQ.  
*Chief Legislative Officer*

KIMBERLY S. ROUTSON  
*Deputy Legislative Officer*

JOEL N. BELLER  
*Assistant Legislative Officer*

**BILL NO.:**            **SB 355**

**TITLE:**                **Health Occupations – Pharmacists – Administration of  
Vaccinations**

**SPONSOR:**           **Senator Augustine**

**COMMITTEE:**        **Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs**

**POSITION:**          **SUPPORT**

**DATE:**                **February 13, 2020**

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 355 – Health Occupations – Pharmacists – Administration of Vaccinations. This legislation would authorize a pharmacist to administer vaccinations to a minor between nine and eighteen years old. Additionally, the bill would require that a pharmacist can administer certain vaccinations in accordance with protocol that meets criteria established by the Department of Health, the Board of Physicians, and the Board of Nursing.

Because the majority of the population in America is vaccinated, diseases like polio, diphtheria, and pertussis have become rare. However, until they can be completely eliminated, it is necessary to continue to immunize people against them. Japan saw a major outbreak of pertussis in 1979 after the number of vaccinations for the disease dropped off. There is a concern that a similar phenomenon could emerge in the U.S. with measles.

One of the best ways to increase herd immunity and protect the population from preventable diseases, particularly children and the elderly, is to increase the availability of vaccines. SB 355 helps support these vital efforts.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 355. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Chief Legislative Officer, at 443-900-6582.



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