

February 17, 2020

SUBJECT: SUPPORT HB 617

Name: Christa Martin, MSN, CRNP

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Business: Southside Pediatrics & Adult Care, LLC.

Dear Sir or Ma'am:

I am writing to ask for your support of HB 617. As a Pediatric Primary Care Provider in Hagerstown, Maryland, I have certified children under 18 years old for medical cannabis for several conditions. These include seizures, aggression as part of autism, and anxiety. This **necessary medically approved medicine** has saved these families emotionally and physically from life threatening illness (seizures) and resolved safety concerns (severe aggression which almost put a child in police custody).

It is paramount that these children be able to receive their medical cannabis during school hours by designated caregivers as a maintenance AND rescue medication. Currently, school personnel can give schedule II medications for attention deficit disorder (ADHD), yet medical cannabis is not included in this permission. Please change this lack of policy for these vulnerable children as it is a medical necessity for them. Access to and the administration of medical cannabis on school buses and classrooms is completely safe and reasonable.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Christa Martin, MSN, CRNP