



*"Being here for Maryland's Children, Youth, and Families"*

**Testimony submitted to House Health and Government Operations Committee**

**March 4, 2020**

**House Bill 1140** – Health - Mobile Response and Stabilization System for Children and Families in Maryland - Study

**Support**

The Maryland Association of Youth Service Bureaus, which represents a statewide network of Bureaus throughout the State of Maryland, supports House Bill 1140, Health - Mobile Response and Stabilization System for Children and Families in Maryland - Study. Youth Service Bureaus provide prevention, intervention and treatment services to at-risk youth and work with many youth in crisis. These youth and their families often need immediate mental health services to assess and stabilize the young person in crisis. MAYSB believe that this bill would benefit youth, families and their communities by examining the issue and working to develop and implement a comprehensive mobile response and stabilization system for children and families.

This bill requires the Maryland Department of Health and the Governor's Commission to Study Mental and Behavioral Health in Maryland to jointly review data, look at current and possible future funding streams, and to develop a plan for a statewide mobile crisis system. Currently access to mental health services for children and youth have many gaps in the State, especially in rural areas of the State.

We respectfully ask you to support this bill.

Respectfully Submitted:

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