



MID-ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION OF  
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS  
*Serving Maryland and Delaware*



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TO: The Honorable Luke Clippinger, Chair  
Members, House Judiciary Committee  
The Honorable Lorig Charkoudian

FROM: Richard A. Tabuteau  
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer  
J. Steven Wise  
Danna L. Kauffman

DATE: February 18, 2020

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 607 – *Public Safety – Crisis Intervention Team Center of Excellence*

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On behalf of the Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MDAAP), and the Mid-Atlantic Association of Community Health Centers (MACHC), we submit this letter of **support** for House Bill 607.

House Bill 607 establishes a Crisis Intervention Team Center of Excellence in the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention to provide technical support to local governments, law enforcement, public safety agencies, behavioral health agencies, and crisis service providers and to develop and implement a "crisis intervention model program." The bill also establishes a Collaborative Planning and Implementation Committee to guide the work of the Center of Excellence.

Given the current escalating incidences of mental health and substance abuse disorders and the corresponding need for crisis response services statewide, House Bill 607 provides a framework for creating a focused and organized approach to ensuring that local law enforcement, behavioral health agencies, and community-based support organizations and others invested in addressing this crisis have access to the best information and resource coordination available and that those resources are available statewide. A favorable report is requested.

**For more information call:**

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