



**Committee:** Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee  
**Bill Number:** Senate Bill 225  
**Bill Title:** Education – Public and Nonpublic Schools – Seizure Action Plans (Brynleigh’s Act)  
**Hearing Date:** January 20, 2021  
**Position:** Support with Amendments

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The Maryland Association of School Health Nurses (MASHN) and the Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) support *Senate Bill 225 – Education – Public and Nonpublic Schools – Seizure Action Plans (Brynleigh’s Act)* with amendments. The bill delineates protocols for schools in addressing the medical needs of children with seizures, particularly in emergencies.

Children with unmet health needs have a difficult time engaging in the educational process. Students who are medically fragile or who deal with chronic health issues are coming to school in increasing numbers and with increasingly complex medical problems that require a variety of treatments. The school nurse serves in a pivotal role that bridges health care and education and is an essential member of interdisciplinary teams to reduce health-related barriers to learning. MASHN and MNA believe that keeping children healthy, safe, in school, and ready to learn should be a top priority for both healthcare and educational systems.

MASHN and MNA routinely collaborate with the Departments of Education and Health on developing and revising school health guidelines. We have worked with the sponsors and advocates on amendments to the bill to:

- Align the bill’s provision with the Nurse Practice Act and school health guidelines on the issues of administration of medication, including delegation to and training of non-clinical personnel;
- Address the technical issue that school nurses may not be school employees, as some school nurses work for local health departments or other agencies; and
- Incorporate the input of a broad range of stakeholders into the development of training and guidelines in the bill.

We have seen a preliminary draft of the sponsor's amendments, and we support the direction of those amendments. At the time of the submission of this written testimony, a final copy of the sponsor's amendments was not available. We will confirm that we are at support with the sponsors amendments, as soon as we have had a chance to review those amendments.

We thank the sponsor and the advocates for their commitment to ensuring all children can participate in the educational system. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Kristy Gorman of MASHN and [kristygorman@gmail.com](mailto:kristygorman@gmail.com) or Robyn Elliott of MNA at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net).