

Senate Bill 282 – *Workgroup on Screening Related to Adverse Childhood Experiences*

Senate Finance Committee

February 8, 2022

All of the above are also charges of the Workgroup on Screening Related to Adverse Childhood Experiences defined in SB 282.

Using federal grant resources, MSDE is working to provide training and technical assistance to local school systems in initiatives such as trauma-informed approaches, mental health first aid, restorative approaches, and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) to address the mental health needs of students and improve overall school climate. MSDE is providing ongoing support to school systems to implement the guidelines and integrate these initiatives to create and enhance a trauma-informed environment in schools.

Additionally, the MSDE has partnered with the University of Maryland School of Medicine National Center for School Mental Health to launch the Maryland School Mental Health Response Program to provide consultation and support to school systems as they address student and family mental health concerns. This program will enrich and enhance the work of school-based student support services personnel, including school psychologists, school counselors, pupil personnel workers, social workers, and school health services professionals.

We respectfully request that you consider this information as you deliberate **House Bill 282**. Please contact Ary Amerikaner, at 410-767-0090, or ary.amerikaner@maryland.gov, for any additional information.