



Secular Maryland

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## **HB 1084 - SUPPORT**

COVID-19 Response Act of 2022

Dear Chair Pendergrass, Vice-Chair Pena-Melnyk, and Members of the Health and Government Operations Committee,

Secular Maryland favors laws that push back against contagious diseases that injure and kill. Mobile vaccine passports protect us all by providing incentive to get vaccinated. They give businesses and service providers the confidence of knowing they are providing a safe setting for their clientele and employees. They give citizens more confidence that it is safe to be employed at indoor locations shared with others. They give customers more confidence to purchase goods and services at local indoor providers instead of purchasing online for delivery or postponing their purchases. They facilitate international travel.

This bill also defends against the dangers that contagious disease pose at institutions of higher education, home health agencies, nursing homes, and assisted living programs. It provides state support for testing, contact tracing, case management, treatment, urgent care, and care resource coordination. It addresses ongoing shortages of medical staff. It requires reporting vaccinations to IMMUNET. Enacting this bill will enable the state to more effectively battle and manage COVID-19 and other contagious diseases.

Respectfully,  
Mathew Goldstein  
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