



Maryland Occupational Therapy Association

PO Box 36401, Towson, Maryland 21286 ♦ motamembers.org

Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee
Bill Number: House Bill 293
Title: Behavioral Health Crisis Response Services - 9-8-8 Trust Fund
Hearing Date: February 2, 2022
Position: Support

The Maryland Occupational Therapy Association (MOTA) supports *House Bill 293 – Health Occupations – Behavioral Health Crisis Response Services - 9-8-8 Trust Fund*. This bill creates a special fund to support the implementation of the 9-8-8 system.

It is expected that federal funds will be available for states to establish 9-8-8 systems, and this bill will position Maryland to apply for those funds. Similar to 2-1-1, the 9-8-8 systems will make it easier for people to connect to behavioral health resources in their communities. Marylanders need these resources to help themselves or family members avoid behavioral health crises.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Scott Tiffin at stiffin@policypartners.net.