



# Maryland Occupational Therapy Association

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PO Box 36401, Towson, Maryland 21286 ♦ [www.mota-members.com](http://www.mota-members.com)

**Committee:** Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

**Bill Number:** Senate Bill 3

**Title:** 9-8-8 Trust Fund - Funding

**Hearing Date:** January 19, 2023

**Position:** Favorable

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The Maryland Occupational Therapy Association (MOTA) supports *Senate Bill 3 – 988 Trust Fund - Funding*. This bill will provide \$12 million in state funding to the 988 Program for fiscal 2025. MOTA supported HB 293 which created the 988 Trust Fund in 2022. We support the continued investment under this year’s bill to ensure the program is functional and effective. Maryland is facing one of the most significant health professional shortages in our lifetimes. As part of the continuum of behavioral health providers, occupational therapy practitioners support programs, such as the 988 Program, that help consumers find the services they need to navigate or avoid behavioral health crises. If we can provide any additional information, please feel free to contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net).