



| Committee: | Senate Finance Committee |
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| Bill: | Senate Bill 774 - Maryland Pathway to Nursing Program and Advisory Committee – Establishment |
| Hearing Date: | March 7, 2023 |
| Position: | Support |

The Maryland Assembly on School-Based Health Centers (MASBHC) supports *Senate Bill* 774 - Maryland Pathway to Nursing Program and Advisory Committee – Establishment. This bill will create a Maryland Pathway to Nursing Program to increase the number of registered nursing students, registered nurses, and licensed practical nurses in the state.

MASBCH supports this bill as strategy to address health professional shortages in schools. In Maryland, there are over 85 school-based health centers (SBHCs) and many are under-staffed. Registered nurses and licensed practical nurses are qualified to work in SBHCs and having people with that skillset benefit the students utilizing the services.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at <u>relliott@policypartners.net</u> or (443) 926-3443.