

Statement of Maryland Rural Health Association (MRHA)

To the Health and Government Operations Chair: Delegate Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk

March 4, 2024

House Bill 1048: Behavioral Health Advisory Council and Commission on Behavioral Health

Care Treatment and Access - Alterations

POSITION: SUPPORT

Chair Pena-Melnyk, Vice Chair Cullison, and members of the committee, the Maryland Rural Health Association (MRHA), is in SUPPORT of House Bill 1048: Behavioral Health Advisory Council and Commission on Behavioral Health Care Treatment and Access - Alterations

Altering the membership and requiring the Commission on Behavioral Health Care Treatment and Access to meet jointly with the Behavioral Health Advisory Council only encourages and promotes health equity and collaboration to improve mental health services across Maryland. We urge a favorable report.

On behalf of the Maryland Rural Health Association, Jonathan Dayton, MS, NREMT, CNE, Executive Director jdayton@mdruralhealth.org