

Statement of Maryland Rural Health Association (MRHA) To the Senate Finance Committee Chair: Senator Pamela Beidle January 29, 2024 Senate Bill 0212: Behavioral Health Advisory Council and Commission on Behavioral Health Care Treatment and Access - Alterations POSITION: SUPPORT

Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Klausmeier, and members of the committee, the Maryland Rural Health Association (MRHA) is in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 0212: 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 <u>jdayton@mdruralhealth.org</u>