



Support: SB 876 Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Limited Behavioral Health Services

2/24/24

Maryland Senate
Finance Committee
3 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the pediatric nurse practitioners (PNPs) and fellow pediatric-focused advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP) Chesapeake Chapter, I am writing to express our support of **SB 876 Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Limited Behavioral Health Services**

This bill would allow children and their families to receive the following without having a behavioral health diagnosis. It often takes time to determine a behavior health diagnosis and children and families may need behavioral health services before a specific diagnosis can be made or if the family requests these resources. This bill would allow evaluation and treatment, family therapy, group therapy and individual therapy, education and services related to prevention, promotion and education.

For these reasons the Maryland Chesapeake Chapter of NAPNAP extends their support to **SB 876 Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Limited Behavioral Health Services and requests a favorable report.**

The pediatric advanced practice nurses of your state are grateful to you for your attention to these crucial issues. The members of Chesapeake Chapter of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners memberships includes over 200 primary and acute care pediatric nurse practitioners who are committed to improving the health and advocating for Maryland's pediatric patients. If we can be of any further assistance, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Lindsay J. Ward, the Chesapeake Chapter President at 410-507-3642 or MDChesNAPNAPLeg@outlook.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lindsay J. Ward".

Lindsay J. Ward CRNP, RN, IBCLC, MSN, BSN
Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner- Pediatric Primary Care
International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP)
Chesapeake Chapter President



Evgenia Ogordova

Evgenia Ogordova-DNP
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP)
Chesapeake Chapter Legislative Chair