

**Senate Bill 210**

**Emergency Medical Services – Paramedics – Immunization Administration – Effective Date**

**Position: Support**

01/22/2024

The Honorable Pamela Beidle  
Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
3 East – Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

On behalf of the Baltimore County Fire Department, we appreciate the opportunity to comment on Maryland Paramedics ability to vaccinate the public. Paramedics have been able to administer COVID-19 vaccinations, first under the Governor’s proclamation of a state of emergency and a catastrophic health emergency and then under Chapter 799 of 2021. However, that law is set to sunset Jan. 1, 2025. Maryland needs every available qualified practitioner to be able to administer COVID-19 and flu vaccines to adequately meet the public health need. As you may or may not be aware, the Baltimore County Fire Department operates a Mobile integrated Healthcare program. One of the core functions of Mobile Integrated Healthcare is the ability to perform Community Immunizations for those individuals who lack the ability to obtain them through physical or fiscal limitations. As we move forward, we need to encourage all eligible Marylanders to be fully vaccinated and make vaccination convenient and available. To achieve this, we must ensure public health vaccination efforts have adequate staffing in place.

For these reasons, Baltimore County Fire Department respectfully requests a favorable position to legislation to codify the ability for Maryland Paramedics to perform community immunizations.

For more information, please contact:



Captain Amanda Wensel, NRP

Mobile Integrated Health Coordinator

410-887-8114