



Wes Moore, Governor - Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor - Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

March 19, 2024

The Honorable Vanessa E. Atterbeary
Chair, House Ways and Means Committee
Room 131, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: Senate Bill 180 – Public and Nonpublic Schools - Auto-Injectable Epinephrine and Bronchodilators - Use, Availability, Training, and Policies - Letter of Support As Amended

Dear Chair Atterbeary and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (Department) respectfully submits this letter of support as amended for Senate Bill (SB) 180 – Public and Nonpublic Schools - Auto-Injectable Epinephrine and Bronchodilators - Use, Availability, Training, and Policies. The Department supports the intent of this bill to create a stock bronchodilator program in Maryland schools to improve access to potentially life-saving medication for students with asthma.

The Department has worked with the sponsors of the bill in both chambers to develop consensus amendments to strengthen administration of the bill. We note that there are some differences between SB 180, as amended, and the cross file, HB 86, largely focused on proposed updates to the training requirements and eligible school personnel definition. The Department views these differences as largely a question of policy preference and defers to the Committee on the preferred language. As a result, the Department supports both versions of the bill as amended.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Case- Herron, Director of Governmental Affairs at sarah.case-herron@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Herrera Scott", is positioned above the typed name.

Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H.
Secretary