

HB 1352 sickle cell.pdf

Uploaded by: Edith Perry

Position: FAV



Southern Maryland Chapter

March 23, 2025

The Honorable Members of the Senate Education, Energy and the Environment
Committee

Re: House Bill 1352 Sickle Cell Disease – Institutions of Higher Education - Policies,
Procedures and Education Campaigns

Passing legislation for sickle cell disease-related absences in higher institutions is crucial to ensure students with this condition receive the necessary accommodations to thrive academically. We support establishing clear guidelines for absences due to a sickle cell crisis or medical appointments to allow students time off without penalties and allow access to notes or recordings of missed classes.

Implement training programs for faculty and staff to raise awareness and improve understanding of sickle cell disease. My friend Tony, an outstanding Artist, quit college because of the lack of concern surrounding his many appointments and the pain he experienced from a sickle cell crisis. Allow flexibility in course loads. Provide resources and support through campus health services, including counseling and pain management options tailored for sickle cell students.

House Bill 1352 will raise awareness of sickle cell disease and provide higher institutions with a more inclusive environment supporting the success of students living with sickle cell disease. We are requesting a favorable vote for HB 1352.

Respectfully submitted,
Southern Maryland Chapter of National Coalition of 100 Black Women

HB1352 Senate Crossover 2025 NAPNAP.pdf

Uploaded by: JD Murphy

Position: FAV

March 25th, 2025

Maryland Senate
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West 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, we are writing to express our **support of HB 1352 Sickle Cell Disease - Institutions of Higher Education - Policies, Procedures, and Educational Campaigns.**

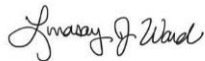
We are dedicated to the health and well-being of children and adolescents, particularly those with chronic conditions. Sickle cell disease often creates invisible disabilities, with impacts on educational endeavors due to its multi-system effects. Students with sickle cell disease often face unique challenges that require specific accommodations to ensure their academic success and overall well-being. For example, pain crises are unpredictable and may lead to students being unable to provide full attention to course work. These students are immunocompromised, so may not be able to attend in-person classes during time periods of disease outbreak. The provisions of HB1352, which prohibit institutions of higher education from denying access or services to students based on their diagnosis of sickle cell disease and require reasonable accommodations, are essential for creating an inclusive and supportive educational environment. By mandating the development of an education and awareness campaign, this bill also ensures that faculty and staff are well-informed about the needs of students with sickle cell disease, fostering a more understanding and accommodating campus culture.

For these reasons the Maryland Chesapeake Chapter of NAPNAP extends their support to **HB 1352 Sickle Cell Disease - Institutions of Higher Education - Policies, Procedures, and Educational Campaigns 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 Chesapeake Chapter of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners membership 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 the Chesapeake Chapter legislative committee or president, Dr. Yvette Laboy at mdchesnapnapleg@outlook.com.

Sincerely,



Dr. Yvette Laboy DNP, CPNP-AC, CCRN, CPN
Chesapeake Chapter
President



Ms. Lindsay Ward MSN,
CPNP-PC, IBCLC
Immediate Past-President



Dr. Evgenia Ogorodova DNP,
CPNP-PC
Chapter Legislative Co-Chair



Dr. Jessica D. Murphy DNP,
CPNP-AC, CPHON, CNE
Chapter Legislative Co-Chair

HB 1352 - Statewide Steering Committee on Sickle

Uploaded by: State of Maryland (MD)

Position: FAV

March 27, 2025

Statewide Steering Committee on Sickle Cell Disease

Dear Senator Brian J. Feldman,

The Statewide Steering Committee on Sickle Cell Disease is in full support of House Bill 1352: “Sickle Cell Disease- Institutions of Higher Education- Policies, Procedures, and Educational Campaigns”.

This bill addresses an important aspect of care for individuals living with sickle cell disease and will help to ensure adequate support services are put in place to aid individuals pursuing these educational opportunities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennie Law". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennie Y. Law, M.D.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rev. Dr. R. L. Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Reverend Dr. R. Lorraine Brown

Co-Chairs Statewide Steering Committee

HB1352 EEE Patterson Sickle Cell Institutions of H

Uploaded by: Edith Patterson

Position: FWA

EDITH J. PATTERSON, Ed.D.

Legislative District 28
Charles County

Ways and Means Committee

Subcommittees

Local Revenues

Chair, Racing and Gaming

Chair, Southern Maryland
House Delegation



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 429
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3247 • 301-858-3247
800-492-7122 Ext. 3247
Edith.Patterson@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony in Support of HB1352 - Sickle Cell Disease - Institutions of Higher Education - Policies, Procedures, and Educational Campaigns

Good afternoon, Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Members of the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee For the record, I am Delegate Edith Patterson, sponsor of HB1352 Education – Public Health – Sickle Cell Disease – Education and Awareness Campaign.

This legislation is inspired by a personal experience I had with a student afflicted by Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) who was a senior at an HBCU in Maryland. During a crisis, she was unable to attend her classes, complete assignments, or engage fully in her education. She reached out to me for assistance, and her situation highlighted the profound challenges that students with SCD face in balancing their health and academic responsibilities.

As you may know, SCD is a chronic condition that can significantly impact students' academic performance and overall school experience. While most students with SCD have normal learning abilities when they are not experiencing symptoms, the unpredictable nature of the disease often creates unique challenges that require thoughtful accommodations and support. Frequent pain crises, fatigue, and other complications can lead to missed school days, difficulty concentrating, and lower academic performance if proper systems are not in place.

HB1352 seeks to address these challenges by encouraging the Maryland Department of Health to develop education and awareness campaigns to implement tailored programs and policies to support students with SCD, including accommodations; collaboration with healthcare providers is critical to ensuring that schools are prepared to manage a student's medical needs, particularly during pain crises; and awareness and training to educate teachers, administrators, and staff about SCD. Awareness training would help staff identify symptoms, respond appropriately during crises, and better understand the needs of students with SCD.

Given the significant challenges faced by students with SCD, this legislation is an essential step toward ensuring that schools provide the accommodations and support these students need to succeed academically. By requiring the Department of Health to create individualized plans, promote awareness training, and establish consistent access to medical resources, Maryland can improve the educational experiences and outcomes for students with SCD and serve as a model for other states.

In summary, HB1352 is a straightforward yet impactful measure to support students at institutions of higher education who have Sickle Cell Disease. It addresses a critical gap in educational equity and ensures that students with SCD have the resources and support they need to thrive academically despite the challenges posed by their condition. I have submitted an amendment for consideration to change the name of the legislation to Kaitlyn's Law in honor of Kaitlyn Adams. I respectfully urge you to give HB1352 a favorable report.

Thank you for your consideration,
Edith Patterson,
Chair, Southern Maryland Delegation

