



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

January 22, 2025

The Honorable Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk
Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 241, House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: House Bill (HB) 46 – Public Health - Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council – Membership – Letter of Support

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk and Committee members:

The Maryland Department of Health (the Department) respectfully submits this letter of Support for House Bill (HB) 46 – Public Health - Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council - Membership. This bill creates a position on the Maryland Cannabis Public Health Advisory Council (the Council) for the Administrator of the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) or the Administrator's designee.

The Department supports HB 46 because of the Council's continuing work regarding Cannabis-impaired driving. The Department believes that including representation from the MVA to the Council will benefit the Council and the State by providing traffic and public safety expertise. This expertise will help inform the Council's future recommendations on public safety to prevent Cannabis-impaired driving and provide the Council with expertise and resources on traffic and public safety.

As written, HB 46 will have neither a fiscal nor operational impact on the Department.

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,

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