

March 12, 2025

## Senate Budget & Taxation Committee House Ways and Means Committee TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

HB 1554/SB 1045: Sales and Use Tax – Taxable Business Services – Alterations

<u>House Bill 1554</u> Chair Vanessa E. Atterbeary House Ways and Means Committee 130 Taylor House Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401 Senate Bill 1045 Chair Guy Guzzone Senate Budget & Taxation Committee 3 West Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Behavioral Health System Baltimore (BHSB) is a nonprofit organization that serves as the local behavioral health authority (LBHA) for Baltimore City. BHSB works to increase access to a full range of quality behavioral health (mental health and substance use) services and advocates for innovative approaches to prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery for individuals, families, and communities. Baltimore City represents nearly 35 percent of the public behavioral health system in Maryland, serving over 100,000 people with mental illness and substance use disorders (collectively referred to as "behavioral health") annually.

BHSB opposes HB 1554/SB 1045: Sales and Use Tax – Taxable Business Services – Alterations as this bill fails to address how the 2.5% tax on a broad set of business-to-business service categories would impact the non-profit sector.

As a non-profit organization, BHSB utilizes services provided by the private sector that are slated to be taxes in this bill. Although, non-profits are tax exempt organizations, the Committees should be concerned about how the private sector will manage an increase in the sales tax when it cannot be passed on to the consumer. BHSB urges the committee to clarify how an increase in the sales tax would impact non-profit organizations.

For more information, please contact Adrienne Breidenstine, 443-908-0503