



TO: The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky, Chair
Members, Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

FROM: Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
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DATE: January 16, 2020

RE: **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT** – Senate Bill 18 – *Environment – Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission*

The Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MDAAP) is a statewide association representing more than 1,100 pediatricians and allied pediatric and adolescent healthcare practitioners in the State and is a strong and established advocate promoting the health and safety of all the children we serve. On behalf of MDAAP, we submit this letter of **support with amendment** for Senate Bill 18.

The Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission has played a critical role in the State's efforts to comprehensively and effectively address lead poisoning and to maximize efforts to prevent lead poisoning. To that end, Senate Bill 18 makes several changes to the current Commission's charges by deleting responsibilities that are no longer relevant and adding new and more relevant responsibilities such as case management, lead paint abatement service provider education, and blood lead testing. The bill also changes the composition of the Commission by removing a member that is no longer relevant to the charges of the Commission and adding a representative of a nonprofit who is actively involved in lead paint poisoning prevention. To that end, MDAAP would request an amendment to add a representative from the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics. The expertise that MDAAP would bring to the Commission given the Commission's charges, especially the new charges reflected in the legislation would greatly enhance the work of the Commission.

With the noted amendment, passage of Senate Bill 18 will ensure that the Commission continues to focus on the most critical and current elements of lead poisoning prevention as its work continues. A favorable report is requested.

For more information call:

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