

BRYAN W. SIMONAIRE
Legislative District 31
Anne Arundel County

Education, Health, and
Environmental Affairs Committee

Subcommittees

Chair, Alcohol

Health

Joint Committee on the Chesapeake and
Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area



James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 320
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3658 • 301-858-3658
800-492-7122 Ext. 3658
Fax 410-841-3586 • 301-858-3586
Bryan.Simonaire@senate.state.md.us

The Senate of Maryland
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Written Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 324

Madam Chair and members of the Finance Committee, I am here to introduce and voice my support for Senate Bill 324 – *Veterans – Behavioral Health Services – Mental Health First Aid*.

Senate Bill 324 would require that the behavioral health services for which the Maryland Department of Health provides service coordination for veterans under certain provisions of law include mental health first aid and would require that mental health first aid consist of training for veterans and the immediate family members of veterans on how to identify and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. The bill would also require entities teaching a mental health first aid course to report certain information to the Department.