



TO: The Honorable Delores G. Kelley, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Cory V. McCray

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer

DATE: February 18, 2020

RE: **OPPOSE** – Senate Bill 519 – *Public Health – Behavioral Health Programs and Health Care Facilities – Safety Plan*

On behalf of the LifeSpan Network, the Maryland Association of Adult Day Services, the Maryland-National Capital Homecare Association, and the Hospice & Palliative Care Network of Maryland we **oppose** Senate Bill 519.

This bill requires, as a condition of licensure, any entity licensed under Title 19 of the Health-General Article to have a safety plan for the safety of the individuals served by and the community surrounding the facility. Because of the reference to Title 19, this bill applies to nursing facilities, assisted living communities, medical adult day centers, home health organizations, and residential service agencies. Each of these named entities is already required to have either under State and/or federal law an emergency and disaster plan. While Senate Bill 519 provides that an existing plan may qualify as the safety plan, there are no standards provided as to what would need to be included in a safety plan to determine whether this would create a new mandate or an existing plan would satisfy the requirement.

Therefore, we respectfully oppose Senate Bill 519 and urge an unfavorable vote.

For more information call:

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