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Maryland Chapter AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

TO: The Honorable Delores G. Kelley, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Sid Saab
The Honorable Bonnie Cullison

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Richard A. Tabuteau

DATE: March 16, 2020

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 364 – *Hospital and Nursing Facility Workers and Health Care Practitioners – Identification Tags and Badges – Name Requirement*

The Maryland Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (MDACEP) which represents the interests of emergency physicians and their patients throughout the State of Maryland **supports** House Bill 364. House Bill 364 modifies the requirement of how an individual's name must be displayed on a name tag in a hospital, nursing facility, office, or facility. Specifically, House Bill 364 provides greater flexibility by allowing the name to be the first name, nickname, last name, or full name commonly used in the hospital, nursing facility, office, or facility.

Workplace violence continues to trend upwards. In recent surveys by the American College of Emergency Physicians and the Emergency Nurses Association, almost half of emergency physicians report being physically assaulted at work, while about 70 percent of emergency nurses report being hit and kicked while on the job. Too often, emergency department personnel are threatened with comments of future violence outside of the workplace. House Bill 364 provides one tool for stemming the tide of violence. By not requiring a full name to be displayed, emergency department personnel can have the added security and peace of mind that their full name is shielded, making it harder for an individual to locate them outside of the hospital.

MDACEP urges a favorable vote.

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