

**PAT YOUNG**  
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Baltimore County

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Appropriations Committee

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Oversight Subcommittee on Personnel

*House Chair*

Joint Committee on the  
Management of Public Funds

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**THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES**  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**HB 611 Baltimore County – Behavioral Health – Hub and Spoke Pilot Program**

Honorable Chair Pendergrass, Vice Chair Peña-Melnyk and Members of the Committee:

I am happy to introduce to you HB 611 Baltimore County – Behavioral Health – Hub and Spoke Pilot Program. This bill creates a pilot for a Hub and Spoke program based on Vermont’s initiative by the same name. The purpose of this program is to increase the availability of substance use disorder treatment, specifically opioid use disorder.

“Hub and Spoke” refers to the two aspects of the program. The “Hub” refers to treatment centers where patients receive medical care and the “Spoke” refers to community care providers to whom these patients go to supplement the treatment received from the “Hub” by participating in wellness treatment. This method has worked in Vermont and the intent here is to pilot the program in Baltimore County to gain data as to how this may be implemented on the state level.

Eric Bromwell from County Executive Olszewski’s office has been the lead advocate in this process. We are awaiting a report from DBM before a funding structure can be realized. Once this report is released, we will be able to utilize that analysis to create this structure. With that being said, there are amendments forthcoming which will address the funding concerns.

HB 611, in essence, is a rapid response program designed to combat the growing opioid epidemic.

Thank you for your time and consideration of HB 611.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Young".

Pat Young, 44B