

**MARYLAND JUDICIAL CONFERENCE**  
**GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Hon. Mary Ellen Barbera  
Chief Judge

187 Harry S. Truman Parkway  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** House Judiciary Committee  
**FROM:** Legislative Committee  
Suzanne D. Pelz, Esq.  
410-260-1523  
**RE:** House Bill 262  
Criminal Procedure – Examination of Defendant by Maryland  
Department of Health – Access to Judicial Records  
**DATE:** January 29, 2020  
(2/4)  
**POSITION:** Support

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The Maryland Judiciary supports House Bill 262. This legislation requires that the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) have access to certain information maintained by the Judiciary about a certain defendant, requires MDH and the Judiciary to enter into an agreement regarding certain matters at a certain time, and generally relates to access to judicial records by MDH.

Currently, Maryland law does not provide for access for MDH to certain case types in secure case search which is maintained by the Judiciary. This bill would fix that omission and provide the needed access that MDH requires for court-ordered individuals in their system, such as a criminal defendant who is subject to examination and committed to the Health Department or an individual on conditional release under the provisions of Criminal Procedure §3-123.

cc. Hon. Luke Clippinger  
Judicial Council  
Legislative Committee  
Kelley O'Connor