

February 12, 2020

Chairman Luke Clippinger  
House Judiciary Committee  
101 House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

Re: Letter of Support for HB 477

Dear Chairman Clippinger:

The Estate & Trust Law Section of the Maryland State Bar Association supports HB 477 entitled Guardianship of the Property of Disabled Persons – Court-Appointed Attorneys.

This bill simply allows for the payment of attorney's fees for guardians of the property for indigent persons or where payment is the responsibility of the local Department of Social Services in the same manner as already in the law for guardians of the person. A comparison of the language in effect for Estates and Trusts Code Section 13-705(d) (for guardians of the person) with the language in this legislation shows the similarities.

There is simply no reason to distinguish payment of attorney's fees for guardians of the property and guardians of the person. This legislation removes this difference. Our section supports this legislation.

Sincerely,



Danielle M. Cruttenden  
Chair, Estate & Trust Law Section

cc: Anne Coventry, Legislative Chair Estate & Trust Law Section  
Richard Montgomery, Director of Legislative & Governmental Relations