

Delegate Paul G. Pinsky, Chair Delegate Cheryl C. Kagan, Vice Chair Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee 2 West, Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

Bill: Senate Bill 500 - Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact

Position: Support

Dear Chairman Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Maryland School Psychologists' Association (MSPA), a professional organization representing about 500 school psychologists in Maryland. We advocate for the social-emotional, behavioral, and academic wellbeing of students and families across the state.

This letter is to provide support for Senate Bill 500. This bill enters Maryland into the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT), which is an interstate compact designed to facilitate telepsychology and temporary in-person psychology practice across state lines. PSYPACT is governed by a commission which operates under structured bylaws and regulations. MSPA supports this bill because it allows for an increase in access to highly qualified mental health providers and the high quality interventions they provide.

MSPA supports SB 500 and we urge a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information or be of any assistance, please contact us at legislative@mspaonline.org, or Rachael Faulkner@policypartners.net or (410) 693-4000.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyl Bile-

Kyle Potter, Ph.D., NCSP

Chair, Legislative Committee

Maryland School Psychologists' Association