



TO: The Honorable Delores G. Kelley, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee

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

DATE: February 3, 2021

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 100 – *Task Force on Oral Health in Maryland*

The Mid-Atlantic Association of Community Health Centers (MACHC) is the federally designated Primary Care Association for Delaware and Maryland Community Health Centers. As the backbone of the primary care safety net, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) are united by a shared mission to ensure access to high-quality health care to all individuals, regardless of ability to pay. FQHCs are non-profit organizations providing comprehensive primary care to the medically underserved and uninsured. MACHC supports its members in the delivery of accessible, affordable, cost effective, and quality primary health care to those most in need. To this end, MACHC **supports** Senate Bill 100.

MACHC has long been an advocate for ensuring access and coverage for dental services. Access to oral health care services is a critical component of the range of essential services necessary to comprehensively address the health care needs of the individuals served by health centers. MACHC believes the proposed Task Force provides an excellent opportunity to comprehensively evaluate oral health in the State, including access to care and other systemic limitations to receiving dental services. Such a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary review should result in meaningful recommendations to address current oral health challenges. A favorable report is requested.

For more information call:

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