

MID-ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

Serving Maryland and Delaware



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TO: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee
The Honorable Heather Bagnall

FROM: Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
Danna L. Kauffman

DATE: January 19, 2021

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 368 – *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 Health Centers. Its members consist of community, migrant and homeless health centers, local non-profit and community-owned healthcare programs, including all of Maryland's federally qualified health centers (FQHCs). MACHC's members provide health care services to the medically underserved and uninsured. MACHC is built on helping our members in the delivery of accessible, affordable, cost effective, and quality primary health care to those in need. MACHC **supports** House Bill 368.

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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