

The Maryland State Medical Society 1211 Cathedral Street Baltimore, MD 21201-5516 410.539.0872 Fax: 410.547.0915 1.800.492.1056 www.medchi.org

- TO: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee The Honorable Adelaide C. Eckardt
- FROM: Pamela Metz Kasemeyer J. Steven Wise Danna L. Kauffman
- DATE: March 23, 2021
- RE: **SUPPORT** Senate Bill 168 *Public Health Maryland Suicide Fatality Review Committee*

On behalf of the Maryland State Medical Society, the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Maryland Clinical Social Work Coalition, we submit this letter of **support** for Senate Bill 168.

The above-named organizations support the establishment of a Suicide Fatality Review Committee to assist the State in addressing the increasing incidences of suicide through the development of initiatives designed to respond to the factors identified as contributing to the incidence of suicide. As amended, Senate Bill 168 addresses the concerns regarding the composition of the Committee and the need to coordinate with existing fatality review committees, which were expressed with respect to the legislation as introduced. As amended by the Senate, a favorable report is requested.

For more information call: Pamela Metz Kasemeyer J. Steven Wise Danna L. Kauffman 410-244-7000