



Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Mid-Atlantic States, Inc
2101 East Jefferson Street
Rockville, Maryland 20852

February 9, 2021

The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass
Health and Government Operations Committee
House Office Building Room 240
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: HB 458 – Support

Dear Chair Pendergrass and Members of the Committee:

Kaiser Permanente is pleased to support HB 458 – “Human Services – Trauma Informed Care – Commission and Training”

Kaiser Permanente is the largest private integrated health care delivery system in the United States, delivering health care to over 12 million members in eight states and the District of Columbia.¹ Kaiser Permanente of the Mid-Atlantic States, which operates in Maryland, provides and coordinates complete health care services for approximately 775,000 members. In Maryland, we deliver care to over 450,000 members.

Kaiser Permanente is an advocate of Trauma Informed Care. We believe this approach is vital in forging pathways from trauma and toxic stress to recovery and healing. Studies show the impact of trauma is very broad and can impact a person across many parts of life: health, behavioral health, family, work, school and more. Roughly 59% of men and women experience at least one adverse childhood experience (ACE) in their life and 9% experience five or more ACEs. Moreover, children with histories of traumatic experiences are twice as likely to have chronic health conditions.

Kaiser Permanente supports this legislation and will seek a seat on this Commission if enacted.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please feel free to contact Wayne Wilson at Wayne.D.Wilson@kp.org or (301) 816-5991 with questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Allison Taylor".

Allison Taylor
Director of Government Relations
Kaiser Permanente

¹ Kaiser Permanente comprises Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc., the nation’s largest not-for-profit health plan, and its health plan subsidiaries outside California and Hawaii; the not-for-profit Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, which operates 39 hospitals and over 650 other clinical facilities; and the Permanente Medical Groups, self-governed physician group practices that exclusively contract with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and its health plan subsidiaries to meet the health needs of Kaiser Permanente’s members.