



TO: The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr., Chair  
Members, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee  
The Honorable Malcolm Augustine

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

DATE: February 11, 2021

RE: **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT** – Senate Bill 406 – *Public Safety – Local Youth Violence Review*  
– *Committees*

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The Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MDAAP) is a statewide association representing more than 1,100 pediatricians and allied pediatric and adolescent healthcare practitioners in the State and is a strong and established advocate promoting the health and safety of all the children we serve. On behalf of MDAAP, we submit this letter of **support with amendment** for Senate Bill 406.

MDAAP applauds the sponsor for her commitment to addressing youth violence as reflected in the section of this legislation, which authorizes local jurisdictions to create Youth Violence Review Committees that delineates the purposes of a local Committee (page 4, lines 7-16). MDAAP would, however, like to encourage the sponsor and members of the Committee to consider two issues as they review the specific provisions of the legislation. The first issue is to ensure that the composition of the Committee includes clinical expertise necessary to appropriately review medical records and other clinical documentation relevant to the review of identified cases. Second, MDAAP would encourage consideration of the potential overlap of review authority with current child fatality review committees. The overlap could lead to duplication of effort and the potential for differing or conflicting analyses and recommendations. MDAAP would suggest that the legislation include a requirement for collaboration between the two review committees if a jurisdiction chooses to create a local violence review committee.

**For more information call:**

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