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*Serving Maryland and Delaware*

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Maryland Chapter  
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF  
EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS



Maryland Association of  
Resources for Families & Youth



Hospice & Palliative Care Network  
OF MARYLAND

MDCSCO

MARYLAND/DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
SOCIETY OF CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

LIFESPAN  
NETWORK



TO: The Honorable Luke Clippinger, Chair  
Members, House Judiciary Committee  
The Honorable Dalya Attar

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

DATE: February 3, 2021

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 508 – *COVID-19 Claim – Civil Immunity*

On behalf of the Maryland State Medical Society, the Maryland Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians, the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Mid-Atlantic Association of Community Health Centers, the Hospice & Palliative Care Network of Maryland, the LifeSpan Network, the Maryland/District of Columbia Society of Clinical Oncology and the Maryland Association of Resources for Families & Youth, we submit this letter of **support** for **House Bill 508**.

House Bill 508 creates immunity from civil liability for certain persons, including health care providers and business entities against claims related to COVID-19 exposure. The immunity is qualified in that it does not include claims where gross negligence or intentional wrongdoing is shown, and it also requires that the person or entity have complied with federal, state, and local laws related to COVID that were in place at the time.

Employers and providers who have struggled through the COVID pandemic have made every effort to comply with applicable laws and regulations, which at times changed by the day. Still, the virus spread and continues to spread almost uncontrollably. Those who would be protected by this bill gave their very best efforts to implement policies and procedures to protect against the virus as directed, despite a shortage of supplies and equipment. They should not emerge from the pandemic, as we all hope we will very soon, only to find themselves facing a barrage of lawsuits alleging fault for someone's exposure to the virus. For these reasons, the above organizations urge the Committee to support House Bill 508.

**For more information call:**  
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