



Committee: Senate Education, Health , and Environmental Affairs

Bill Number: House Bill 286

Title: Emergency Medical Services - Paramedics - Immunization Administration - Effective Date

Hearing Date: March 24, 2022

Position: Support

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) strongly supports *House Bill 286 – Emergency Medical Services – Paramedics – Immunization Administration – Effective date*. The bill extends that statutory authorization for paramedics to provide COVID-19 and flu vaccines until January 1, 2026.

This past year, paramedics have been essential in the efforts of public health officials in reaching Marylanders in all parts of the state with COVID-19 vaccines. There are simply not enough nurses or other licensed health care professionals to provide vaccines in emergency circumstances. Since approximately 25% of Marylanders remain unvaccinated, we will need to extend our state’s vaccination efforts. This legislation is important in ensuring we have enough qualified people to administer COVID-19 vaccines.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.