



Committee: Senate Finance Committee
Bill Number: Senate Bill 350
Title: Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Community Violence Prevention Services
Hearing Date: February 22, 2022
Position: Support

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) supports *Senate Bill 350 – Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Community Violence Prevention*. The bill would provide for Medicaid reimbursement for evidence-based violence prevention programs.

There is a growing body of research showing that community violence can be prevented using public health interventions. Violence prevention specialists work to identify people who may be at risk of experiencing or participating in community violence and then the prevention specialist connects individuals to services and resources that reduce the risk of violence. These services may include counseling, employment resources, or a variety of other important supports. Nurses treat victims of violence every day and we see the ways violence can spread in a community. This bill will insure consistent funding for evidence-based public responses to community violence.

We need to use every tool available to keep people healthy and safe. We ask you for a favorable vote on this legislation. If we can provide any additional support, please contact Scott Tiffin at stiffin@policypartners.net.